

**Division of Measurement Standards  
Field Reference Manual  
Revision Index**

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**THIS INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON THE DIVISION WEBSITE AT  
[www.cdfa.ca.gov/dms](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/dms) under "Forms and Publications".**

If you need assistance, please contact the Division of Measurement Services at (916) 229-3000 or by e-mail [dms@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:dms@cdfa.ca.gov).



## Introduction

**A. Source.** - The specifications, tolerances, and other technical requirements published herein comprise, in their latest form, all of the current codes as adopted by the National Conference on Weights and Measures.<sup>1</sup> The National Conference is sponsored by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), which provides the NCWM secretariat and publishes NCWM documents. NIST also develops technical publications for use by weights and measures agencies; these publications may subsequently be endorsed or adopted by the NCWM.

The Conference Committee on Specifications and Tolerances,<sup>2</sup> acting at the request of the Conference or upon its own initiative, with the technical assistance of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, annually prepares proposed revisions, amendments, or additions to the material previously adopted by the Conference (see paragraph C). Such revisions, amendments, or additions are then presented to the Conference as a whole, where they are discussed by weights and measures officials and representatives of interested manufacturers and industries. Eventually the proposals of the Committee are voted upon only by the weights and measures officials.

All of the specifications, tolerances, and other technical requirements given herein are recommended by the National Conference on Weights and Measures for official promulgation in and use by the States in exercising their control of commercial weighing and measuring apparatus. A similar recommendation is made with respect to the local jurisdictions within a State in the absence of the promulgation of specifications, tolerances, and other technical requirements by a State agency.

**B. Purpose.** - The purpose of these technical requirements is to eliminate from use, weights and measures and weighing and measuring devices that give readings that are false, that are of such construction that they are faulty (that is, that are not reasonably permanent in their adjustment or will not repeat their indications correctly), or that facilitate the perpetration of fraud, without prejudice to apparatus that conforms as closely as practicable to the official standards.

<sup>1</sup> When sitting as a voting body, the National Conference on Weights and Measures (NCWM) is made up of State and local weights and measures officials from all parts of the United States. The NCWM normally meets annually.

<sup>2</sup> Communications to this committee may be addressed as follows: Executive Secretary, National Conference on Weights and Measures, National Institute of Standards and Technology, 100 Bureau Drive, Stop 2600, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-2600.

**C. Amendments.** - The Committee on Specifications and Tolerances of the NCWM provides a mechanism for consideration of amendments or additions to the specifications, tolerances, and other technical requirements. The following procedures are based on NCWM Publication 3, "Policy, Interpretations, and Guidelines" (see Section 1 - NCWM Management, Subsection 1 - Organization and Committees) that were amended at the 83<sup>rd</sup> NCWM Annual Meeting in 1998.

**D. Submission of Agenda Items - Preamble.** - The Constitution of the NCWM requires that its officers and Committees observe the principles of due process for the protection of the rights and interests of affected parties. Specifically, it requires that Committees and Officers: (a) give reasonable advance notice of contemplated studies, issues to be considered for action, and tentative or definite recommendations for conference vote; and (b) provide that all interested parties have an opportunity to be heard.

**E. Submission Process.** - Anyone introducing an issue to the Committee shall use the regional weights and measures associations to initially consider its merits. Using the regional associations ensures discussion and evaluation of issues at the grass-roots level by involving the regional members in the development, evaluation, and justification of proposals. The regions include the Central, Northeastern, Southern, and Western Weights and Measures Associations. For information on the regional associations contact NCWM, at the address listed below or, by telephone at 301-975-4004, or on the Internet at <http://www.nist.gov/owm>.

### F. Procedures

The Committee will consider issues according to the following procedures:

a. All issues to be considered by the Committee for action at the upcoming Interim Meeting must be submitted in writing to the Committee by November 1. Although use of NCWM Form 15 is not required, it is recommended for use in submitting proposals to the NCWM. Proposals shall be sent to the Committee at:

**NIST Office of Weights and Measures Division**  
**100 Bureau Drive, Stop 2600**  
**Gaithersburg, MD 20899-2600**  
**Attention: Specifications and Tolerances Committee**

## Introduction

b. A copy of the proposal must be sent to the NCWM's Executive Secretary at the same address.

### G. Criteria for Inclusion in the Committee's Agenda.

a. Any issue approved by at least one regional association and received by the November 1 deadline will be automatically placed on the Committee's Interim Meeting Agenda.

b. Issues that have not been approved by a regional association, but which are received by November 1, will be evaluated by the Committee using the criteria in Section H, Exceptions to Policy and Section I, Committee Agenda.

c. Any proposal received after the November 1 deadline, but prior to the Interim Meeting, will be evaluated by the Committee according to Section H, Exceptions to Policy and Section I, Committee Agenda. Only those issues determined to be a national "Priority" will be included on its agenda.

d. Proposals must be in writing and must include:

(1) a concise statement of the issue or problem outlining the purpose and national need for its consideration. When possible, an electronic copy of the background material and proposed amendment(s) should be submitted in a PC compatible word processing document format (e.g., Corel WordPerfect or Microsoft Word) on electronic media or by electronic mail using the same format;  
(Amended 2004)

(2) background material including test data, analysis of test data, or other appropriately researched and documented material from which the Committee will be able to make a judgment for either a firm recommendation or consideration of the need for further study;

(3) proposed solutions to problems stated in specific language in amendment form to Conference documents; and

(4) practical, realistic, and specific recommendations for both regulations and test methods to provide for proper enforcement, if a proposal involves a new area of weights and measures activity.

When proposals are to modify or add requirements to existing publications, such as Handbook 44, the proposal should:

(i) Identify the pertinent portion, section, and paragraph of the existing publication that would be changed (e.g., Sec. 1.10. General Code, paragraph G-A.1. Commercial and Law-Enforcement Equipment).

(ii) Provide evidence of consistency with other NCWM publications such as with other specific device code sections.

(iii) Provide evidence of consistency with Federal laws and regulations (e.g., USDA).

(iv) Relay the positions of businesses, industries, or trade associations affected by the proposal including supporting and opposing points of view.

### H. Exceptions to Policy for Submission of Issues to a Committee Agenda; Submission of "Priority" Issues.

The Committee will use the following criteria to evaluate issues that have not been approved by a regional association, but has been received by the November 1 deadline. If an issue is received after the November 1 deadline, it will be included on an agenda, if the Committee determines that it is a national "Priority."

#### Criteria for Inclusion in the Committee's Agenda when no Regional Association has approved the Issues.

(1) Issues must have significant legal impact on weights and measures laws and/or regulations involving:

(a) court cases/attorney general opinions; or

(b) pre-emption by Federal statute or regulation; or

(c) conflict with international standards; or

(d) relationship to laws or regulations of an urgent nature which could affect health and safety.

(2) The Committee may contact parties that are potentially affected by an issue (e.g., trade associations, industry, and consumer groups) for comments. The Committee may consider these comments and any other information in determining if the issue should be included on its agenda.

(3) When the Committee determines that it should consider an issue as a "Priority" (using the criteria in (1)), the issue will be handled in the following manner:

(a) A "priority" issue received prior to the Interim Meeting may be added to the Interim Meeting agenda by majority vote of the Committee.

(b) A "priority" issue received after the Interim Meeting may be added to the Committee's Annual Meeting agenda as: (i) a discussion issue by majority vote of the Committee, or (ii) as a voting item by majority vote of the Committee and the NCWM Board of Directors.

inch-pound units. In these few instances, separate requirements were judged to be more easily understood than attempting to combine SI and inch-pound units in a single paragraph or table. In some cases, however, trade practice is currently restricted to the use of customary units; therefore, some requirements in this Handbook will continue to specify only customary units until the Conference achieves a broad consensus on the permitted metric units.

**R. Classification of Requirements.** - The classification of requirements into “retroactive” and “nonretroactive” status is made in order that the requirements may be put into force and effect without unnecessary hardship and without wholesale condemnation of apparatus. Retroactive requirements are enforceable with respect to all equipment and are printed in upright Roman type. Nonretroactive requirements are those that, while clearly desirable, are not so vital that they should at once be enforced with respect to all apparatus. **Nonretroactive requirements are printed in *italic type*.**

It is not expected that, after their promulgation in a given jurisdiction, nonretroactive requirements will always remain nonretroactive. It is entirely proper that a weights and measures official, following a careful analysis of existing conditions, fix reasonable periods for the continuance of the nonretroactive application of particular requirements, after which such requirements will become retroactive. These periods should be long enough to avoid undue hardship to the owners or operators of apparatus and, in the case of some requirements, should approximate the average useful life of the apparatus in question.

In order that all interested parties may have timely and ample notice of impending changes in the status of requirements, the following procedure is suggested for the official who plans to change the classification of requirements. If sufficient data are at hand to make such action feasible, publish in combination with the codes themselves the date or dates at which nonretroactive requirements are to become retroactive. In other cases, give equally effective notice at the earliest practicable date.

A nonretroactive requirement, in italic type, will indicate the year from which it should be enforced and, in some cases, the date the requirement shall be changed to retroactive status. For example, [*Nonretroactive as of 1978 and to become retroactive on January 1, 1985*]. As a general rule, each nonretroactive requirement is reviewed after it has been in effect for 10 years to determine the appropriateness of its nonretroactive status.

**S. Using the Handbook.** - Handbook 44 is designed to be a working tool for federal, state, and local weights and measures officials, the equipment manufacturers, installers, and service agencies/agents. As noted in General Code paragraph G-A-1. Commercial and Law-Enforcement Equipment, applicable portions of Handbook 44 may be used by the weights and measures official to test noncommercial weighing and measuring equipment upon request. Additionally, applicable language in Handbook 44 may be cited as a standard in noncommercial applications. For example, when the Handbook is referenced or cited as part of a quality system or in multiple party contract agreements where noncommercial weighing or measuring equipment is used.

The section on Fundamental Considerations (Appendix A) should be studied until its contents are well known. The General Code, with general requirements pertaining to all devices, obviously must be well known to a user of the Handbook. The makeup of the specific codes, the order of paragraph presentation, and particularly paragraph designation are worthy of careful study.

It is not deemed advisable for a user to attempt to commit to memory tolerances or tolerance tables, even though these are used frequently. For the Handbook to serve its purpose, it should be available when any of its requirements are to be applied. Direct reference is the only sure way to apply a requirement properly and to check whether other requirements may be applicable.

This Handbook supplies criteria which enables the user to determine the suitability, accuracy, and repetitive consistency of a weighing or measuring device, both in the laboratory and in the field. However, not all code sections can be appropriately applied in both settings. Since some sections are designed to be applied specifically to tests performed under laboratory conditions, it would be impractical or unrealistic to apply them to field tests. Not all tests described in the “Notes” section of the Handbook are required to be performed in the field as an official test. An inspector may officially approve or reject a device which has been tested in accordance with those sections applicable to the type of test being conducted.

(Paragraph added 1996)

(Amended 2005)

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## Sec. 1.10. General Code

### G-A. Application

**G-A.1. Commercial and Law-Enforcement Equipment.** - These specifications, tolerances, and other technical requirements apply as follows:

- (a) To commercial weighing and measuring equipment; that is, to weights and measures and weighing and measuring devices commercially used or employed in establishing the size, quantity, extent, area, or measurement of quantities, things, produce, or articles for distribution or consumption, purchased, offered, or submitted for sale, hire, or award, or in computing any basic charge or payment for services rendered on the basis of weight or measure.
- (b) To any accessory attached to or used in connection with a commercial weighing or measuring device when such accessory is so designed that its operation affects the accuracy of the device.
- (c) To weighing and measuring equipment in official use for the enforcement of law or for the collection of statistical information by government agencies.

(These requirements should be used as a guide by the weights and measures official when, upon request, courtesy examinations of noncommercial equipment are made.)

**G-A.2. Code Application.** - This General Code shall apply to all classes of devices as covered in the specific codes. The specific code requirements supersede General Code requirements in all cases of conflict.  
(Amended 1972)

**G-A.3. Special and Unclassified Equipment.** - Insofar as they are clearly appropriate, the requirements and provisions of the General Code and of specific codes apply to equipment failing, by reason of special design or otherwise, to fall clearly within one of the particular equipment classes for which separate codes have been established. With respect to such equipment, code requirements and provisions shall be applied with due regard to the design, intended purpose, and conditions of use of the equipment.

**G-A.4. Metric Equipment.** - Employment of the weights and measures of the metric system is lawful throughout the United States. These specifications, tolerances, and other requirements shall not be understood or construed as in any way prohibiting the manufacture, sale, or use of equipment designed to give results in terms of metric units. The specific provisions of these requirements and the principles upon which the requirements are based shall be applied to metric equipment insofar as appropriate and practicable. The tolerances on metric

equipment, when not specified herein, shall be equivalent to those specified for similar equipment constructed or graduated in the inch-pound system.

**G-A.5. Retroactive Requirements.** - “Retroactive” requirements are enforceable with respect to all equipment. Retroactive requirements are printed herein in upright Roman type.

**G-A.6. Nonretroactive Requirements.** - “Nonretroactive” requirements are enforceable after the effective date for:

- (a) devices manufactured within a State after the effective date;
- (b) both new and used devices brought into a State after the effective date; and
- (c) devices used in noncommercial applications which are placed into commercial use after the effective date.

Nonretroactive requirements are not enforceable with respect to devices that are in commercial service in the State as of the effective date or to new equipment in the stock of a manufacturer or a dealer in the State as of the effective date.  
*[Nonretroactive requirements are printed in italic type.]*  
(Amended 1989)

**G-A.7. Effective Enforcement Dates of Code Requirements.** - Unless otherwise specified, each new or amended code requirement shall not be subject to enforcement prior to January 1 of the year following the adoption by the National Conference on Weights and Measures and publication by the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

### G-S. Specifications

**G-S.1. Identification.** - All equipment, except weights and separate parts necessary to the measurement process but not having any metrological effect, shall be clearly and permanently marked for the purposes of identification with the following information:

- (a) the name, initials, or trademark of the manufacturer or distributor;
- (b) a model designation that positively identifies the pattern or design of the device;

1. *The model designation shall be prefaced by the term “Model,” “Type,” or “Pattern.” These terms may be followed by the term “Number” or an abbreviation of that word. The abbreviation for the word “Number” shall, as a minimum, begin with the letter “N” (e.g., No or No.) The abbreviation for the word “Model” shall be “Mod” or “Mod.” Prefix lettering may be initial capitals, all capitals or all lower case.*

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2003]*

(Added 2000) (Amended 2001 and 2004)

## 1.10. General Code

- (c) *a nonrepetitive serial number, except for equipment with no moving or electronic component parts and not built-for-purpose, software-based devices;*  
[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1968]  
(Amended 2003 and 2004)

1. *The serial number shall be prefaced by words and abbreviation, or a symbol, that clearly identifies the number as the required serial number;*  
[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1986]

2. *Abbreviations for the word "Serial" shall, as a minimum, begin with the letter "S," and abbreviations for the word "Number" shall, as a minimum, begin with the letter "N" (e.g., S/N, SN, Ser. No, and S No).*  
[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2001]

- (d) *the current software version designation for not built-for-purpose, software-based devices.*  
[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2004]

- (e) *an NTEP Certificate of Conformance (CC) number or a corresponding CC Addendum Number for devices that have a CC. The CC number or a corresponding CC Addendum Number shall be prefaced by the terms "NTEP CC," "CC," or "Approval." These terms may be followed by the term "Number" or an abbreviation of that word. The abbreviation for the word "Number" shall, as a minimum, begin with the letter "N" (e.g., No or No.).*  
[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2003]  
(Added 2001)

The required information shall be so located that it is readily observable without the necessity of the disassembly of a part requiring the use of any means separate from the device.  
(Amended 1985, 1991, 1999, 2000, 2003, and 2004)

**G-S.1.1. Location of Marking Information for Not Built-For-Purpose, Software-Based Devices.** – *For not built-for-purpose, software-based devices, the following shall apply:*

- (a) *the manufacturer or distributor and the model designation shall be continuously displayed or marked on the device (see note below), or*
- (b) *the Certificate of Conformance (CC) Number shall be continuously displayed or marked on the device (see note below), or*
- (c) *all required information in G-S.1. Identification. (a), (b), (d), and (e) shall be continuously displayed. Alternatively, a clearly identified "view only" System Identification, G-S.1. Identification, or Weights and*

*Measures Identification shall be accessible through the "Help" menu. Required information includes that information necessary to identify that the software in the device is the same type that was evaluated.*

(Amended 2004 and 2005)

**Note:** *Clear instructions for accessing the remaining required G-S.1. information shall be listed on the CC. Required information includes that information necessary to identify that the software in the device is the same type that was evaluated.*

[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2004]

(Added 2003)

### **G-S.1.2. Remanufactured Devices and Remanufactured Main Elements.**

[NOT ADOPTED]

**G-S.2. Facilitation of Fraud.** - All equipment and all mechanisms and devices attached thereto or used in connection therewith shall be so constructed, assembled, and installed for use such that they do not facilitate the perpetration of fraud.

**G-S.3. Permanence.** - All equipment shall be of such materials, design, and construction as to make it probable that, under normal service conditions:

- (a) accuracy will be maintained,
- (b) operating parts will continue to function as intended, and
- (c) adjustments will remain reasonably permanent.

Undue stresses, deflections, or distortions of parts shall not occur to the extent that accuracy or permanence is detrimentally affected.

**G-S.4. Interchange or Reversal of Parts.** - Parts of a device that may readily be interchanged or reversed in the course of field assembly or of normal usage shall be:

- (a) so constructed that their interchange or reversal will not affect the performance of the device, or
- (b) so marked as to show their proper positions.



Table 1M. Minimum Travel of Weighbeam of Beam Scale Between Limiting Stops	
Distance from weighbeam fulcrum to limiting stops (centimeters)	Minimum travel between limiting stops (millimeter)
30 or less	10
30+ to 50, inclusive	13
50+ to 100, inclusive	18
Over 100	23

Table 1. Minimum Travel of Weighbeam of Beam Scale Between Limiting Stops	
Distance from weighbeam fulcrum to limiting stops (inches)	Minimum travel Between limiting stops (inch)
12 or less	0.4
12+ to 20, inclusive	0.5
20+ to 40, inclusive	0.7
Over 40	0.9

**S.1.5.3. Subdivision.** - A subdivided weighbeam bar shall be subdivided by scale division graduations, notches, or a combination of both. Graduations on a particular bar shall be of uniform width and perpendicular to the top edge of the bar. Notches on a particular bar shall be uniform in shape and dimensions and perpendicular to the face of the bar. When a combination of graduations and notches is employed, the graduations shall be positioned in relation to the notches to indicate notch values clearly and accurately.

**S.1.5.4. Readability.** - A subdivided weighbeam bar shall be so subdivided and marked, and a weighbeam poise shall be so constructed, that the weight corresponding to any normal poise position can easily and accurately be read directly from the beam, whether or not provision is made for the optional recording of representations of weight.

**S.1.5.5. Capacity.** - On an automatic-indicating scale having a nominal capacity of 15 kg (30 lb) or less and used for direct sales to retail customers:

- (a) the capacity of any weighbeam bar shall be a multiple of the reading-face capacity,

- (b) each bar shall be subdivided throughout or shall be subdivided into notched intervals, each equal to the reading-face capacity; and

- (c) the value of any turnover poise shall be equal to the reading-face capacity

**S.1.5.6. Poise Stop.** - Except on a steelyard with no zero graduation, a shoulder or stop shall be provided on each weighbeam bar to prevent a poise from traveling and remaining back of the zero graduation.

#### S.1.6. Poes.

**S.1.6.1. General.** - No part of a poise shall be readily detachable. A locking screw shall be perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the weighbeam and shall not be removable. Except on a steelyard with no zero graduation, a poise shall not be readily removable from a weighbeam. The knife edge of a hanging poise shall be hard and sharp and so constructed as to allow the poise to swing freely on the bearing surfaces in the weighbeam notches.

**S.1.6.2. Adjusting Material.** - The adjusting material in a poise shall be securely enclosed and firmly fixed in position; if softer than brass, it shall not be in contact with the weighbeam.

**S.1.6.3. Pawl.** - A poise, other than a hanging poise, on a notched weighbeam bar shall have a pawl that will seat the poise in a definite and correct position in any notch, wherever in the notch the pawl is placed, and hold it there firmly and without appreciable movement. The dimension of the tip of the pawl that is transverse to the longitudinal axis of the weighbeam shall be at least equal to the corresponding dimension of the notches.

**S.1.6.4. Reading Edge or Indicator.** - The reading edge or indicator of a poise shall be sharply defined, and a reading edge shall be parallel to the graduations on the weighbeam.

#### S.1.7. Capacity Indication, Weight Ranges, and Unit Weights.

- (a) **Gross Capacity.** An indicating or recording element shall not display nor record any values when the total platform load (not counting the initial dead load that has been canceled by an initial zero-setting mechanism) is in excess of 105 percent of scale capacity.

- (b) **Capacity Indication.** *Electronic computing scales (excluding postal scales and weight classifiers) shall neither display nor record a gross or net weight in excess of scale capacity plus 9d.*

## 2.20. Scales

The total value of weight ranges and of unit weights in effect or in place at any time shall automatically be accounted for on the reading face and on any recorded representation.

This requirement does not apply to: (1) single-revolution dial scales, (2) multi-revolution dial scales not equipped with unit weights, (3) scales equipped with two or more weighbeams, nor (4) devices that indicate mathematically derived totaled values.

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1993.]*

(Amended 1990, 1992, and 1995)

### S.1.8. Computing Scales.

**S.1.8.1.M. Money-Value Graduations, Metric Unit Prices.** - The value of the graduated intervals representing money values on a computing scale with analog indications shall not exceed:

- (a) 1 cent at all unit prices of 55 cents per kilogram and less;
- (b) 2 cents at unit prices of 56 cents per kilogram through \$2.75 per kilogram (special graduations defining 5-cent intervals may be employed but not in the spaces between regular graduations);
- (c) 5 cents at unit prices of \$2.76 per kilogram through \$7.50 per kilogram; or
- (d) 10 cents at unit prices above \$7.50 per kilogram.

Value figures and graduations shall not be duplicated in any column or row on the graduated chart. (See also S.1.8.2.)

**S.1.8.1. Money-Value Graduations, Inch-Pound Unit Prices.** - The value of the graduated intervals representing money values on a computing scale with analog indications shall not exceed:

- (a) 1 cent at all unit prices of 25 cents per pound and less;
- (b) 2 cents at unit prices of 26 cents per pound through \$1.25 per pound (special graduations defining 5-cent intervals may be employed but not in the spaces between regular graduations);
- (c) 5 cents at unit prices of \$1.26 per pound through \$3.40 per pound; or
- (d) 10 cents at unit prices above \$3.40 per pound.

Value figures and graduations shall not be duplicated in any column or row on the graduated chart. (See also S.1.8.2.)

**S.1.8.2. Money-Value Computation.** - A computing scale with analog quantity indications used in retail trade may compute and present digital money values to the nearest quantity graduation when the value of the minimum graduated interval is 0.005 kg (0.01 lb) or less. (Also see Sec. 1.10; G-S.5.5.)

### S.1.8.3. Customer's Indications.

**[NOT ADOPTED]**

#### 4002.2. Scales (2.20.)

**(e) Customer's Indications.** Weight indications shall be shown on the customer's side of computing scales when these are used for direct sales to retail customers. Computing scales equipped on the operator's side with digital indications, such as the net weight, unit price, or total price, shall be similarly equipped on the customer's side. *Unit price displays visible to the customer shall be in terms of whole units of weight, and not in common or decimal fractions.*

*[Nonretroactive May 9, 1996.]*

**S.1.8.3.1.** Scales that will function as either a normal round off scale or as a weight classifier shall be provided with a sealable means for selecting the mode of operation and shall have a clear indication (annunciator), adjacent to the weight display on both the operator's and customer's side whenever the scale is operating as a weight classifier.

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2001]*

(Added 1999)

**S.1.8.4. Recorded Representations, Point-of-Sale Systems.** - The sales information recorded by cash registers when interfaced with a weighing element shall contain the following information for items weighed at the checkout stand:

- (a) the net weight,<sup>1</sup>
- (b) the unit price,<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> For devices interfaced with scales indicating in metric units, the unit price may be expressed in price per 100 grams. Weight values shall be identified by kilogram, kg, grams, g, ounces, oz, pound, or lb. The “#” symbol is not acceptable. *[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2006]*  
(Amended 1995 and 2005)

- (c) the total price, and
- (d) the product class or, in a system equipped with price look-up capability, the product name or code number.

### S.1.9. Prepackaging Scales.

**S.1.9.1. Value of the Scale Division.** - On a prepackaging scale, the value of the intervals representing weight values shall be uniform throughout the entire reading face. The recorded weight values shall be identical with those on the indicator.

**S.1.9.2. Label Printer.** - A prepackaging scale or a device that produces a printed ticket to be used as the label for a package shall print all values digitally and of such size, style of type, and color as to be clear and conspicuous on the label.

**S.1.10. Adjustable Components.** - An adjustable component such as a pendulum, spring, or potentiometer shall be held securely in adjustment and, except for a zero-load balance mechanism, shall be located within the housing of the element.  
(Added 1986)

#### S.1.11. Provision for Sealing.

- (a) *Except on Class I scales, provision shall be made for applying a security seal in a manner that requires the security seal to be broken before an adjustment can be made to any component affecting the performance of*

*an electronic device.*

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1979.]*

- (b) *Except on Class I scales, a device shall be designed with provision(s) for applying a security seal that must be broken, or for using other approved means of providing security (e.g., data change audit trail available at the time of inspection), before any change that detrimentally affects the metrological integrity of the device can be made to any electronic mechanism.*

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1990.]*

- (c) *Except on Class I scales, audit trails shall use the format set forth in Table S.1.11.*

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1995.]*

A device may be fitted with an automatic or a semi-automatic calibration mechanism. This mechanism shall be incorporated inside the device. After sealing, neither the mechanism nor the calibration process shall facilitate fraud.

(Amended 1989, 1991, 1993)

**S.1.12. Manual Weight Entries.** - A device when being used for direct sale shall accept an entry of a manual gross or net weight value only when the scale gross or net\* weight indication is at zero. Recorded manual weight entries, except those on labels generated for packages of standard weights, shall identify the weight value as a manual weight entry by one of the following terms: "Manual Weight," "Manual Wt," or "MAN WT." The use

Table S.1.11. Categories of Device and Methods of Sealing	
Categories of Device	Method of Sealing
Category 1: No remote configuration capability.	Seal by physical seal or two event counters: one for calibration parameters and one for configuration parameters.
Category 2: Remote configuration capability, but access is controlled by physical hardware.  Device shall clearly indicate that it is in the remote configuration mode and record such message if capable of printing in this mode.	The hardware enabling access for remote communication must be at the device and sealed using a physical seal or two event counters: one for calibration parameters and one for configuration parameters.
Category 3: Remote configuration capability access may be unlimited or controlled through a software switch (e.g., password).	An event logger is required in the device; it must include an event counter (000 to 999), the parameter ID, the date and time of the change, and the new value of the parameter. A printed copy of the information must be available through the device or through another on-site device. The event logger shall have a capacity to retain records equal to ten times the number of sealable parameters in the device, but not more than 1000 records are required. ( <b>Note: Does not require 1000 changes to be stored for each parameter.</b> )

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1995.]*

(Table added 1993)

## 2.20. Scales

*of a symbol to identify multiple manual weight entries on a single document is permitted, provided that the symbol is defined on the same page on which the manual weight entries appear and the definition of the symbol is automatically printed by the recording element as part of the document.*

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1993]*

*[\*Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2005]*

(Added 1992) (Amended 2004)

**S.1.13. Vehicle On-Board Weighing Systems: Vehicle in Motion.** - When the vehicle is in motion, a vehicle on-board weighing system shall either:

- (a) be accurate; or
  - (b) inhibit the weighing operation.
- (Added 1993)

## **S.2. Design of Balance, Tare, Level, Damping, and Arresting Mechanisms.**

### **S.2.1. Zero-Load Adjustment.**

**S.2.1.1. General.** - A scale shall be equipped with means by which the zero-load balance may be adjusted. Any loose material used for this purpose shall be enclosed so that it cannot shift in position and alter the balance condition of the scale.

**S.2.1.2. Scales Used in Direct Sales.** - A manual zero-setting mechanism (except on a digital scale with an analog zero-adjustment mechanism with a range of not greater than one scale division) shall be operable or accessible only by a tool outside of and entirely separate from this mechanism, or it shall be enclosed in a cabinet. Except on Class I or II scales, a balance ball shall either meet this requirement or not itself be rotatable.

A semiautomatic zero-setting mechanism shall be operable or accessible only by a tool outside of and separate from this mechanism or it shall be enclosed in a cabinet, or it shall be operable only when the indication is stable within:

- (a) plus or minus 3 scale divisions for scales of more than 2 000 kg (5 000 lb) capacity in service prior to January 1, 1981, and for all axle-load, railway track, and vehicle scales; or
- (b) plus or minus 1 scale division for all other scales.

**S.2.1.3. Scales Equipped With An Automatic Zero-Setting Mechanism (Zero Tracking).** -

**S.2.1.3.1. Zero-Tracking for Scales Manufactured Between January 1, 1981 and January 1, 2007.** - The maximum load that can be "rezeroed," when either placed on or removed from the platform all at once under normal operating conditions, shall be:

- (a) for bench, counter, and livestock scales: 0.6 scale division;
  - (b) for vehicle, axle-load, and railway track scales: 3.0 scale divisions; and
  - (c) for all other scales: 1.0 scale division.
- (Amended 2005)

**S.2.1.3.2. Zero-Tracking for Scales Manufactured On Or After January 1, 2007.** - The maximum load that can be "rezeroed," when either placed on or removed from the platform all at once under normal operating conditions, shall be:

- (a) for vehicle, axle-load, and railway track scales: 3.0 scale divisions; and
  - (b) for all other scales: 0.5 scale division.
- (Added 2005)

**S.2.1.3.3. Means to Disable Zero-Tracking On Class III L Devices.** - Class III L devices equipped with automatic zero-setting mechanisms shall be designed with a sealable means to allow the automatic zero-setting mechanism to be disabled during the inspection and test of the device.

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2001]*

(Added 1999) (Amended 2005)

**S.2.1.4. Monorail Scales.** - On a static monorail scale equipped with digital indications, means shall be provided for setting the zero-load balance to within 0.02 percent of scale capacity. On a dynamic monorail weighing system, means shall be provided to automatically maintain these conditions.

(Amended 1999)

### **S.2.1.5. Initial Zero-Setting Mechanism.**

- (a) Scales of accuracy Classes I, II, and III may be equipped with an initial zero-setting device.
  - (b) An initial zero-setting mechanism shall not zero a load in excess of 20 percent of the maximum capacity of the scale unless tests show that the scale meets all applicable tolerances for any amount of initial load compensated by this device within the specified range.
- (Added 1990)

**S.2.1.6. Combined Zero-Tare (“O/T”) Key.** - Scales not intended to be used in direct sales applications may be equipped with a combined zero and tare function key, provided that the device is clearly marked as to how the key functions. The device must also be clearly marked on or adjacent to the weight display with the statement “Not for Direct Sales.” (Added 1998)

**S.2.2. Balance Indicator.** - On a balance indicator consisting of two indicating edges, lines, or points, the ends of the indicators shall be sharply defined. When the scale is in balance, the ends shall be separated by not more than 1.0 mm (0.04 in).

**S.2.2.1. Dairy-Product-Test, Grain-Test, Prescription, and Class I and II Scales.** - Except on digital indicating devices, a dairy-product-test, grain-test, prescription, or Class I or II scale shall be equipped with a balance indicator. If an indicator and a graduated scale are not in the same plane, the clearance between the indicator and the graduations shall be not more than 1.0 mm (0.04 in).

**S.2.2.2. Equal-Arm Scale.** - *An equal-arm scale shall be equipped with a balance indicator. If the indicator and balance graduation are not in the same plane, the clearance between the indicator and the balance graduation shall be not more than 1.0 mm (0.04 in).* [Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1989.] (Added 1988)

**S.2.3. Tare.** - *On any scale (except a monorail scale equipped with digital indications), the value of the tare division shall be equal to the value of the scale division.\** The tare mechanism shall operate only in a backward direction (that is, in a direction of underregistration) with respect to the zero-load balance condition of the scale. *A device designed to automatically clear any tare value shall also be designed to prevent the automatic clearing of tare until a complete transaction has been indicated.\** (Amended 1985)

[*Note: On a computing scale, this requires the input of a unit price, the display of the unit price, and a computed positive total price at a readable equilibrium. Other devices require a complete weighing operation, including tare, net, and gross weight determination.*]\*  
[\*Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1983.]

**S.2.3.1. Monorail Scales Equipped with Digital Indications.** - On a static monorail weighing system equipped with digital indications, means shall be provided for setting any tare value of less than 5 percent of the scale capacity to within 0.02 percent of scale capacity. On a dynamic monorail weighing system, means shall be provided to automatically maintain this condition. (Amended 1999)

**S.2.4. Level-Indicating Means.** - Except for portable wheel-load weighers and portable axle-load scales, a portable scale shall be equipped with level-indicating means if its weighing performance is changed by an amount greater than the appropriate acceptance tolerance when it is moved from a level position and rebalanced in a position that is out-of-level in any upright direction by 5 percent (approximately 3 degrees). The level-indicating means shall be readable without removing any scale parts requiring a tool.

[*This requirement is nonretroactive and enforceable as of January 1, 1986, for prescription, jewelers’, and dairy-product-test scales and scales marked I and II.*]

[*Note: Portable wheel-load weighers and portable axle-load scales shall be accurate when placed out-of-level up to and including 5 percent (approximately 3 degrees).*] (Amended 1991)

**S.2.4.1. Vehicle On-Board Weighing Systems.** - A vehicle on-board weighing system shall operate within tolerance when the weighing system is out-of-level up to 3 degrees or 5 percent. If the accuracy of the system is affected by out-of-level conditions normal to the use of the device, the system shall be equipped with an out-of-level sensor that inhibits the weighing operation when the system is out-of-level to the extent that the accuracy limits are exceeded. (Added 1992)

**S.2.5. Damping Means.** - An automatic-indicating scale and a balance indicator shall be equipped with effective means to damp oscillations and to bring the indicating elements quickly to rest.

**S.2.5.1. Digital Indicating Elements.** - Digital indicating elements equipped with recording elements shall be equipped with effective means to permit the recording of weight values only when the indication is stable within:

- (a) plus or minus 3 scale divisions for scales of more than 2000 kg (5000 lb) capacity in service prior to January 1, 1981, hopper (other than grain hopper) scales with a capacity exceeding 22 000 kg (50 000 lb), and for all vehicle, axle load, livestock, and railway track scales;
- (b) plus or minus 1 scale division for all other scales.

The values recorded shall be within applicable tolerances.

**S.2.5.2. Jewelers’, Prescription, and Class I and Class II Scales.** - A jewelers’, prescription, Class I, or Class II scale shall be equipped with appropriate means for arresting the oscillation of the mechanism.

## 2.20. Scales

**S.2.5.3. Class I and Class II Prescription Scales with a Counting Feature.** – A Class I or Class II prescription scale shall indicate to the operator when the piece weight computation is complete by a stable display of the quantity placed on the load receiving element.

(Added 2003)

### S.3. Design of Load-Receiving Elements.

**S.3.1. Travel of Pans of Equal-Arm Scale.** - The travel between limiting stops of the pans of a nonautomatic-indicating equal-arm scale not equipped with a balance indicator shall be not less than the minimum travel shown in Tables 2M and 2.

Table 2M. Minimum Travel of Pans of Nonautomatic Indicating Equal-Arm Scale Without Balance Indicator	
Nominal capacity (kilograms)	Minimum travel of pans (millimeters)
2 or less	9
2+ to 5, inclusive	13
5+ to 12, inclusive	19
Over 12	25

Table 2. Minimum Travel of Pans of Nonautomatic Indicating Equal-Arm Scale Without Balance Indicator	
Nominal capacity (pounds)	Minimum travel of pans (inch)
4 or less	0.35
4+ to 12, inclusive	0.5
12+ to 26, inclusive	0.75
Over 26	1.0

**S.3.2. Drainage.** - A load-receiving element intended to receive wet commodities shall be so constructed as to drain effectively.

**S.3.3. Scoop Counterbalance.** - A scoop on a scale used for direct sales to retail customers shall not be counterbalanced by a removable weight. A permanently attached scoop-counterbalance shall indicate clearly on both the operator's and customer's sides of the scale whether it is positioned for the scoop to be on or off the scale.

### S.4. Design of Weighing Elements.

**S.4.1. Antifriction Means.** - Frictional effects shall be reduced to a minimum by suitable antifriction elements. Opposing surfaces and points shall be properly shaped, finished, and hardened. A platform scale having a frame around the platform shall be equipped with means to prevent interference between platform and frame.

**S.4.2. Adjustable Components.** - An adjustable component such as a nose-iron or potentiometer shall be held securely in adjustment. The position of a nose-iron on a scale of more than 1 000 kg (2 000 lb) capacity, as determined by the factory adjustment, shall be accurately, clearly, and permanently defined.  
(Amended 1986)

**S.4.3. Multiple Load-Receiving Elements.** - Except for mechanical bench and counter scales, a scale with a single indicating or recording element, or a combination indicating-recording element, that is coupled to two or more load-receiving elements with independent weighing systems, shall be provided with means to prohibit the activation of any load-receiving element (or elements) not in use, and shall be provided with automatic means to indicate clearly and definitely which load-receiving element (or elements) is in use.

### S.5. Design of Weighing Devices, Accuracy Class.

**S.5.1. Designation of Accuracy Class.** - *Weighing devices are divided into accuracy classes and shall be designated as I, II, III, III L, or IIII.*  
[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1986.]

**S.5.2. Parameters for Accuracy Class.** - *The accuracy class of a weighing device is designated by the manufacturer and shall comply with parameters shown in Table 3.*  
[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1986.]

**S.5.3. Multi-Interval and Multi-Range Scales, Division Value.** - On a multi-interval scale and multiple range scale, the value of "e" shall be equal to the value of "d."<sup>2</sup>  
(Added 1986) (Amended 1995)

<sup>2</sup> See Footnote 1 to Table 3, Parameters for Accuracy Classes.

**S.5.4. Relationship of Load Cell Verification Interval Value to the Scale Division.** - The relationship of the value for the load cell verification scale interval,  $v_{min}$ , to the scale division,  $d$ , for a specific scale installation shall be:

$$(a) v_{min} \leq \frac{d}{\sqrt{N}} \text{ where } N \text{ is the number of load cells in}$$

*the scale for scales without lever systems; and*

$$(b) v_{min} \leq \frac{d}{\sqrt{N} \times (\text{scale multiple})} \text{ for scales with lever}$$

*systems.*

[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1994.]

[Note: When the value of the scale division,  $d$ , is different than the verification scale division,  $e$ , for the scale, the value of  $e$  must be used in the formulae above.]

*This requirement does not apply to complete scales and weighing elements which satisfy the following criteria:*

- (1) *The device has been evaluated for compliance with T.N.8.1. Temperature under the National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP);*
- (2) *The device has received an NTEP Certificate of Conformance; and*
- (3) *The device must be equipped with an automatic zero-setting mechanism which cannot be made inoperative in the normal weighing mode. (A test mode which permits the disabling of the automatic zero-setting mechanism is permissible, provided the scale cannot function normally while in this mode.)*

(Added 1993) (Amended 1996)

## **S.6. Marking Requirements.** [See also G-S.1., G-S.4., G-S.6., G-S.7., G-UR.2.1.1., and UR.3.4.1.]

**S.6.1. Nominal Capacity; Vehicle and Axle-Load Scales.** - For all vehicle and axle-load scales, the marked nominal capacity shall not exceed the concentrated load capacity (CLC) times the quantity of the number of sections in the scale minus 0.5.

*As a formula, this is stated as*

$$\text{nominal capacity} \leq \text{CLC} \times (N - 0.5)$$

*where  $N$  = the number of sections in the scale.*

(See N.1.3.4. and T.N.3.1.)

[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1989.]

[Note: When the device is used in a combination railway track and vehicle weighing application, the above formula shall apply only to the vehicle scale application.]

(Added 1988) (Amended 1999 and 2002)

**S.6.2. Location of Marking Information.** - Scales that are not permanently attached to an indicating element, and for which the load-receiving element is the only part of the weighing/load-receiving element visible after installation, may have the marking information required in G-S.1. of the General Code and S.6. of the Scales Code located in an area that is accessible only through the use of a tool; provided that the information is easily accessible (e.g., the information may appear on the junction box under an access plate). The identification information for these scales shall be located on the weighbridge (load-receiving element) near the point where the signal leaves the weighing element or beneath the nearest access cover.

(Added 1989)

**S.6.3. Scales, Main Elements, and Components of Scales or Weighing Systems.** - Scales, main elements of scales when not contained in a single enclosure for the entire scale, load cells for which Certificates of Conformance (CC) have been issued under the National Type Evaluation Program, and other equipment necessary to a weighing system, but having no metrological effect on the weighing system, shall be marked as specified in Table S.6.3.a. and explained in the accompanying notes (Table S.6.3.b.).

(Added 1990)

**S.6.4. Railway Track Scales.** - A railway track scale shall be marked with the maximum capacity of each section of the load-receiving element of the scale. Such marking shall be accurately and conspicuously presented on, or adjacent to, the identification or nomenclature plate that is attached to the indicating element of the scale. *The nominal capacity of a scale with more than two sections shall not exceed twice its rated section capacity. The nominal capacity of a two-section scale shall not exceed its rated section capacity.*

[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2002]

(Amended 1988 and 2001)

**S.6.5. Livestock Scales.** - A livestock scale manufactured prior to January 1, 1989 or after January 1, 2003 shall be marked with the maximum capacity of each section of the load-receiving element of the scale. Livestock scales manufactured between January 1, 1989 and January 1, 2003 shall be marked with either the Concentrated Load Capacity (CLC) or the Section Capacity. Such marking shall be accurately and conspicuously presented on, or adjacent to the identification or nomenclature plate that is attached to the indicating element of the scale. *The nominal capacity of a scale with more than two sections shall not exceed twice its rated section capacity. The nominal capacity of a two-section scale shall not exceed its rated section capacity\*.*

[\*Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2003]

See also Note 14 in Table S.6.3.b.

(Added 2002) (Amended 2003)

## **2.20. Scales**

**S.6.6. Counting Feature, Minimum Individual Piece Weight and Minimum Sample Piece Count.** – A Class I or Class II prescription scale with an operational counting feature shall be marked with the minimum individual piece weight and minimum number of pieces used in the sample to establish an individual piece weight.  
(Added 2003)

### **N. Notes**

#### **N.1. Test Procedures.**

**N.1.1. Increasing-Load Test.** - The increasing-load test shall be conducted on all scales with the test loads approximately centered on the load-receiving element of the scale, except on a scale having a nominal capacity greater than the total available known test load. When the total test load is less than the nominal capacity, the test load is used to greatest advantage by concentrating it, within prescribed load limits, over the main load supports of the scale.

**N.1.2. Decreasing-Load Test (Automatic Indicating Scales).** - The decreasing-load test shall be conducted with the test load approximately centered on the load-receiving element of the scale.



Table S.6.3.b.

Notes For Table S.6.3.a	
1. Manufacturer's identification and model designation and model designation prefix*. *[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2003.] (See G-S.1.) [Prefix lettering may be initial capitals, all capitals or all lower case.] (Amended 2000)	<i>maximum number of scale divisions for which the device complies with the applicable requirements for each accuracy class.</i> [Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1988.]
2. Serial number [Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1968] and prefix [Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1986]. (See G-S.1.)	9. For vehicle and axle-load scales only. The CLC shall be added to the load-receiving element of any such scale not previously marked at the time of modification. [Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1989.] (Amended 2002)
3. The device shall be marked with the nominal capacity. The nominal capacity shall be shown together with the value of the scale division (e.g., 15 x 0.005 kg, 30 x 0.01 lb, or capacity = 15 kg, d = 0.005 kg) in a clear and conspicuous manner and be readily apparent when viewing the reading face of the scale indicator unless already apparent by the design of the device. Each scale division value or weight unit shall be marked on multiple range or multi-interval scales. [Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1983] (Amended 2005)	10. Necessary to the weighing system but having no metrological effect, e.g., auxiliary remote display, keyboard, etc.
4. Required only if different from "d." [Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1986.]	11. The markings may be either on the load cell or in an accompanying document; except that, if an accompanying document is provided, the serial number shall appear both on the load cell and in the document. [Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1988.] The manufacturer's name or trademark, the model designation, and identifying symbol for the serial number shall also be marked both on the load cell and in any accompanying document. [Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1991.]
5. Required only on Class III, III L, and IIII devices if the temperature range on the NTEP CC is narrower than and within -10 °C to 40 °C (14 °F to 104 °F). [Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1986.]	12. Required on the indicating element and the load-receiving element of vehicle and axle-load scales. Such marking shall be identified as "concentrated load capacity" or by the abbreviation "CLC".* [*Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1989.] (Amended 2002)
6. This value may be stated on load cells in units of 1 000; e.g., n: 10 is 10 000 divisions. [Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1988.]	13. A scale designed for a special application rather than general use shall be conspicuously marked with suitable words, visible to the operator and to the customer, restricting its use to that application, e.g., postal scale, prepack scale, weight classifier, etc.* When a scale is installed with an operational counting feature, the scale shall be marked on both the operator and customer sides with the statement "The counting feature is not legal for trade," except when a Class I or Class II prescription scale complies with all Handbook 44 requirements applicable to counting features. [*Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1986.] (Amended 1994 and 2003)
7. Denotes compliance for single or multiple load cell applications. It is acceptable to use a load cell with the "S" or Single Cell designation in multiple load cell applications as long as all other parameters meet applicable requirements. A load cell with the "M" or Multiple Cell designation can be used only in multiple load cell applications. [Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1988.] (Amended 1999)	14. Required on livestock* and railway track scales. When marked on vehicle and axle-load scales manufactured before January 1, 1989, it may be used as the CLC. For livestock scales manufactured between January 1, 1989 and January 1, 2003, required markings may be either CLC or section capacity. [*Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2003.] (Amended 2002 and 2003)
8. An indicating element not permanently attached to a weighing element shall be clearly and permanently marked with the accuracy Class of I, II, III, III L, or IIII, as appropriate, and the maximum number of scale divisions, $n_{max}$ , for which the indicator complies with the applicable requirement. Indicating elements that qualify for use in both Class III and III L applications may be marked III/III L and shall be marked with the	

Table S.6.3.b.

## Notes For Table S.6.3.a. (Continued)

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| <p>15. <i>Required if the direction of loading the load cell is not obvious.</i><br/>[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1988.]</p> <p>16. <i>Serial number [Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1968] and prefix [Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1986].</i> (See G-S.1.) Modules without “intelligence” on a modular system (e.g., printer, keyboard module, cash drawer, and secondary display in a point-of-sale system) are not required to have serial numbers.</p> <p>17. <i>The accuracy Class of a device shall be marked on the device with the appropriate designation as I, II, III, III L, or IIII.</i><br/>[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1986.]</p> <p>18. The nominal capacity shall be conspicuously marked as follows:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">(a) on any scale equipped with unit weights or weight ranges;</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">(b) on any scale with which counterpoise or equal-arm weights are intended to be used;</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">(c) on any automatic-indicating or recording scale so constructed that the capacity of the indicating or recording element, or elements, is not immediately apparent;</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">(d) on any scale with a nominal capacity less than the sum of the reading elements; and</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">(e) on the load-receiving element (weighbridge) of vehicle, axle-load, and livestock scales.*<br/>[*Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1989.]</p> <p>19. <i>Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1988.</i><br/>(Amended 1992)</p> | <p>20. <i>Combination vehicle/railway track scales must be marked with both the nominal capacity and CLC for vehicle weighing and the nominal capacity and section capacity for railway weighing. All other requirements relating to these markings will apply.</i><br/>[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2000]<br/>(Added 1999)</p> <p>21. The value of the load cell verification interval (<math>v_{min}</math>) must be stated in mass units. In addition to this information, a device may be marked with supplemental representations of <math>v_{min}</math>.<br/>[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2001]<br/>(Added 1999)</p> <p>22. <i>Combination vehicle/livestock scales must be marked with both the CLC for vehicle weighing and the section capacity for livestock weighing. All other requirements relative to these markings will apply.</i><br/>[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2003]<br/>(Added 2002)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><b>Note:</b> <i>The marked section capacity for livestock weighing may be less than the marked CLC for vehicle weighing.</i><br/>(Added 2003)</p> <p>23. <i>Required only if a CC has been issued for the device or equipment.</i><br/>[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2003]<br/>(G-S.1. Identification (f) Added 2001)</p> <p>24. <i>The section capacity shall be prefaced by the words “Section Capacity” or an abbreviation of that term. Abbreviations shall be “Sec Cap” or “Sec C”. All capital letters and periods may be used.</i><br/>[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2005]<br/>(Added 2004)</p> |
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**N.1.2.1. Scales Marked I, II, III, or IIII.** - Except for portable wheel load weighers, decreasing-load tests shall be conducted on scales marked I, II, III, or IIII and with  $n$  equal to or greater than 1000 with test loads equal to the maximum test load at each tolerance value. For example, on a Class III scale, at test loads equal to 4000d, 2000d, and 500d; for scales with  $n$  less than 1000, the test load shall be equal to one-half of the maximum load applied in the increasing-load test. (See Table 6.)  
(Amended 1998)

**N.1.2.2. All Other Scales.** - On all other scales, except for portable wheel load weighers, the decreasing-load test shall be conducted with a test load equal to one-half of the maximum load applied in the increasing-load test.  
(Amended 1998)

**N.1.3. Shift Test.**

**N.1.3.1. Bench or Counter Scales.** - A shift test shall be conducted with a half-capacity test load centered successively at four points equidistant between the center and the front, left, back, and right edges of the load-receiving element.

**N.1.3.2. Dairy-Product-Test Scales.** - A shift test shall be conducted with a test load of 18 grams successively positioned at all points on which a weight might reasonably be placed in the course of normal use of the scale.

**N.1.3.3. Equal-Arm Scales.** - A shift test shall be conducted with a half-capacity test load positioned on each pan as prescribed in N.1.3.1. An equal test load shall be centered on the other pan.

**N.4. Coupled-in-Motion Railroad Weighing Systems.<sup>3</sup>**

**N.4.1. Weighing Systems Used to Weigh Trains of Less Than 10 Cars.** - These weighing systems shall be tested using a consecutive-car test train consisting of the number of cars weighed in the normal operation run over the weighing system a minimum of five times in each mode of operation following the final calibration.  
(Added 1990; Amended 1992)

**N.4.2. Weighing Systems Placed in Service Prior to January 1, 1991, and Used to Weigh Trains of 10 or More Cars.** - The minimum test train shall be a consecutive-car test train of no less than 10 cars run over the scale a minimum of five times in each mode of operation following final calibration.  
(Added 1990; Amended 1992)

**N.4.3. Weighing Systems Placed in Service on or After January 1, 1991, and Used to Weigh Trains of 10 or More Cars.**

- (a) These weighing systems shall be tested using a consecutive-car test train of no less than 10 cars run over the scale a minimum of five times in each mode of operation following final calibration; or
- (b) if the official with statutory authority determines it necessary, the As Used Test Procedures outlined in N.4.3.1. shall be used.  
(Added 1990; Amended 1992)

**N.4.3.1. As Used Test Procedures** - A weighing system shall be tested in a manner that represents the normal method of operation and length(s) of trains normally weighed. The weighing systems may be tested using either:

- (1) a consecutive-car test train of a length typical of train(s) normally weighed; or
- (2) a distributed-car test train of a length typical of train(s) normally weighed.

However, a consecutive-car test train of a shorter length may be used provided that initial verification test results for the shorter consecutive-car test train agree with the test results for the distributed-car or full-length consecutive-car test train as specified in N.4.3.1.1.

<sup>3</sup> A test weight car that is representative of one of the types of cars typically weighed on the scale under test may be used wherever reference weight cars are specified.  
(Added 1991)

The official with statutory authority shall be responsible for determining the minimum test train length to be used on subsequent tests.  
(Added 1990; Amended 1992)

**N.4.3.1.1. Initial Verification.** - Initial verification tests should be performed on any new weighing system and whenever either the track structure or the operating procedure changes. If a consecutive-car test train of length shorter than trains normally weighed is to be used for subsequent verification, the shorter consecutive-car test train results shall be compared either to a distributed-car or to a consecutive-car test train of length(s) typical of train(s) normally weighed.

The difference between the total train weight of the train(s) representing the normal method of operation and the weight of the shorter consecutive-car test train shall not exceed 0.15 percent. If the difference in test results exceeds 0.15 percent, the length of the shorter consecutive-car test train shall be increased until agreement within 0.15 percent is achieved.

Any adjustments to the weighing system based upon the use of a shorter consecutive-car test train shall be offset to correct the bias that was observed between the full-length train test and the shorter consecutive-car test train.  
(Added 1990; Amended 1992, 1993)

**N.4.3.1.2. Subsequent Verification.** - The test train may consist of either a consecutive-car test train with a length not less than that used in initial verification, or a distributed-car test train representing the number of cars used in the normal operation.  
(Added 1990)

**N.4.3.1.3. Distributed-Car Test Trains.**

- (a) The length of the train shall be typical of trains that are normally weighed.
- (b) The reference weight cars shall be split into three groups, each group consisting of 10 cars or 10 percent of the train length, whichever is less.  
(Amended 1991)
- (c) The test groups shall be placed near the front, around the middle, and near the end of the train.

## 2.20. Scales

- (d) Following the final adjustment, the distributed-car test train shall be run over the scale at least three times or shall produce 50 weight values, whichever is greater.

- (e) The weighing system shall be tested in each mode of operation.

(Added 1990; Amended 1992)

### N.4.3.1.4. Consecutive-Car Test Trains.

- (a) A consecutive-car test train shall consist of at least 10 cars.
- (b) If the consecutive-car test train consists of between 10 and 20 cars, inclusive, it shall be run over the scale a minimum of five times in each mode of operation following the final calibration.
- (c) If the consecutive-car test train consists of more than 20 cars, it shall be run over the scale a minimum of three times in each mode of operation.

(Added 1990; Amended 1992)

**N.5. Uncoupled-in-Motion Railroad Weighing System.** - An uncoupled-in-motion scale shall be tested statically before being tested in motion by passing railroad reference weight cars over the scale. When an uncoupled-in-motion railroad weighing system is tested, the car speed and the direction of travel shall be the same as when the scale is in normal use. The minimum in-motion test shall be three reference weight cars passed over the scale three times. The cars shall be selected to cover the range of weights that are normally weighed on the system and to reflect the types of cars normally weighed.

(Added 1993)

**N.6. Nominal Capacity of Prescription Scales.** - The nominal capacity of a prescription scale shall be assumed to be 1/2 apothecary ounce, unless otherwise marked. (Applicable only to scales not marked with an accuracy class.)

## T. Tolerances Applicable to Devices not Marked I, II, III, III L, or IIII

### T.1. Tolerance Values.

**T.1.1. General.** - The tolerances applicable to devices not marked with an accuracy class shall have the tolerances applied as specified in Table T.1.1. (Amended 1990)

**T.1.2. Postal and Parcel Post Scales.** - The tolerances for postal and parcel post scales are given in Table T.1.1. and Table 5. (Amended 1990)

### T.2. Sensitivity Requirement (SR)

**T.2.1. Application.** - The sensitivity requirement (SR) is applicable to all nonautomatic-indicating scales not marked I, II, III, III L, or IIII, and is the same whether acceptance or maintenance tolerances apply.

**T.2.2. General.** - Except for scales specified in paragraphs T.2.3. through T.2.8.: 2d, 0.2 percent of the scale capacity, or 40 lb, whichever is least.

**T.2.3. Prescription Scales.** - 6 mg (0.1 grain).

Table 5. Maintenance and Acceptance Tolerances for Unmarked Postal and Parcel Post Scales					
Scale Capacity	Test loads	Maintenance tolerance (±)		Acceptance tolerance (±)	
(lb)	(lb)	(oz)	(lb)	(oz)	(lb)
0 to 4, inclusive*	0 to 1, inclusive	1/32	0.002	1/32	0.002
	over 1	1/8	0.008	1/16	0.004
over 4*	0 to 7, inclusive	3/16	0.012	3/16	0.012
	7+ to 24, inclusive	3/8	0.024	3/16	0.012
	24+ to 30, inclusive	1/2	0.030	1/4	0.015
	over 30	0.1% of Test Load		0.05% of Test Load	
*See Table T.1.1. for scales designed and/or used to weigh loads less than 2 lb.					

Table T.1.1. Tolerances for Unmarked Scales						
Type of Device	Subcategory	Min. Tol.	Accept. Tol.	Maint. Tol.	Decreasing Load Multiplier <sup>1</sup>	Other Applicable Requirements
Vehicle, axle-load, livestock, railway track (weighing statically), Crane, and hopper (other than grain hopper)		Class III L, T.N.3.1 (Table 6) and T.N.3.2.			1.0	T.N.2., T.N.3., T.N.4.1., T.N.4.2., T.N.4.3., T.N.4.4., T.N.5., T.N.7.2.
Grain test scales	n ≤ 10 000 n > 10 000	Class III, T.N.3.1. (Table 6) and T.N.3.2. Class II, T.N.3.1. (Table 6) and T.N.3.2.			1.0	
Railway track scales Weighing in motion		T.N.3.6. except that for T.N.3.6.2. (a), no single error shall exceed four times the maintenance tolerance.			1.0	
Monorail Scales, In-Motion		T.N.3.8.			1.0	
Customer-Operated Bulk-Weighing Systems for Recycled Materials		± 5% of applied material test load. Average error on 10 or more test loads ≤ 2.5%.			1.0	
Wheel-load weighers and Portable axle-load Scales	Tested individually or in pairs <sup>2</sup>	0.5d or 50 lb, whichever is greater	1% of test load	2% of test load	1.5 <sup>3</sup>	
Prescription scales		0.1 grain (6 mg)	0.1 % of test load load	0.1% of test load	1.5	
Jewelers' scales	Graduated	0.5d	0.05% of test load	0.05% of test load	1.5	
	Ungraduated	Sensitivity or smallest weight, whichever is less				
Dairy-product-test scale	Loads < 18 g 18 g load	0.2 grain 0.2 grain	0.2 grain 0.3 grain	0.2 grain 0.5 grain	1.5	
Postal and parcel post scales Designed/used to weigh loads < 2 lb	Loads < 2 lb	15 grain, 1 g, 1/32 oz, 0.03 oz, or 0.002 lb	15 grain, 1 g, 1/32 oz, 0.03 oz, or 0.002 lb	15 grain, 1 g, 1/32 oz, 0.03 oz, or 0.002 lb	1.5	
	Loads ≥ 2 lb	Table 5	Table 5	Table 5		
Other postal and parcel post scales		Table 5	Table 5	Table 5	1.5	
All other scales	n > 5 000	0.5d or 0.05% of scale capacity, whichever is less	0.05% of test load	0.1% of test load	1.5	T.N.2.5., T.N.4.1., T.N.4.2., T.N.4.3., T.N.5., T.N.7.2.
	n ≤ 5 000	Class III, T.N.3.1., Table 6 and T.N.3.2.			1.0	T.N.2., T.N.3., T.N.4.1., T.N.4.2., T.N.4.3., T.N.5., T.N.7.2.

<sup>1</sup> The decreasing load test applies only to automatic indicating scales.

<sup>2</sup> If marked and tested as a pair, the tolerance shall be applied to the sum of the indications.

<sup>3</sup> The decreasing load test does not apply to portable wheel load weighers.

(Added 1990; Amended 1992 and 1998)

## 2.20. Scales

### T.2.4. Jewelers' Scales.

**T.2.4.1. With One-Half Ounce Capacity or Less.** – 6 mg (0.1 grain).

**T.2.4.2. With More Than One-Half Ounce Capacity.** - 1d or 0.05 percent of the scale capacity, whichever is less.

### T.2.5. Dairy-Product-Test Scales

**T.2.5.1. Used in Determining Butterfat Content.** – 32 mg (0.5 grain).

**T.2.5.2. Used in Determining Moisture Content.** – 19 mg (0.3 grain).

**T.2.6. Grain Test Scales.** - The sensitivity shall be as stated in T.N.6.  
(Amended 1987)

### T.2.7. Vehicle, Axle-Load, Livestock, and Animal Scales.

**T.2.7.1. Equipped With Balance Indicators.** - 1d.

**T.2.7.2. Not Equipped With Balance Indicators.** - 2d or 0.2 percent of the scale capacity, whichever is less.

#### 4002.2. Scales (2.20)

**(d) Livestock Scales Not Equipped With Balance Indicator. The Sensitivity Requirement for livestock scales not equipped with a balance indicator shall be 10 pounds, notwithstanding the requirements of Handbook 44, Section 2.20. Scales, T.2.7.2.**

**T.2.8. Railway Track Scales.** - 3d or 100 lb, whichever is less.

**T.3. Sensitivity Requirement, Equilibrium Change Required.** The minimum change in equilibrium with test loads equal to the values specified in T.2. shall be as follows:

- (a) Scale With a Trig Loop but Without a Balance Indicator. The position of rest of the weighbeam shall change from the center of the trig loop to the top or bottom, as the case may be.

- (b) Scale With a Single Balance Indicator and Having a Nominal Capacity of Less Than 250 g (500 b). The position of rest of the indicator shall change 1.0 mm (0.04 in) or one division on the graduated scale, whichever is greater.

- (c) Scale With a Single Balance Indicator and Having a Nominal Capacity of 250 kg (500 lb) or Greater. The position of rest of the indicator shall change 6.4 mm (0.25 in) or one division on the graduated scale or the width of the central target area, whichever is greater. However, the indicator on a batching scale shall change 3.2 mm (0.125 in) or one division on the graduated scale, whichever is greater.

- (d) Scale With Two Opposite-Moving Balance Indicators. The position of rest of the two indicators moving in opposite directions shall change 1.0 mm (0.04 in) with respect to each other

- (e) Scale With Neither a Trig Loop Nor a Balance Indicator. The position of rest of the weighbeam or lever system shall change from the horizontal, or midway between limiting stops, to either limit of motion.

**T.4. Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) and Other Electromagnetic Interference Susceptibility.** - The difference between the weight indication with the disturbance and the weight indication without the disturbance, shall not exceed one scale division (d) or the equipment shall:

- (a) blank the indication, or
  - (b) provide an error message, or
  - (c) the indicator shall be so completely unstable that it could not be interpreted, or transmitted into memory or to a recording element, as a correct measurement value.
- (Added 1986)

**T.5. Operating Temperature.** - *An indicating or recording element shall not display or record any usable values until the operating temperature necessary for accurate weighing and a stable zero-balance condition has been attained.*  
[Nonretroactive and effective January 1, 1981.]  
(Added 1986)

## T.N. Tolerances Applicable to Devices Marked I, II, III, III L, & IIII.

### T.N.1. Principles.

**T.N.1.1. Design.** - The tolerance for a weighing device is a performance requirement independent of the design principle used.

**T.N.1.2. Accuracy Classes.** - Weighing devices are divided into accuracy classes according to the number of scale divisions (n) and the value of the scale division (d).

**T.N.1.3. Scale Division.** - The tolerance for a weighing device is related to the value of the scale division (d) or the value of the verification scale division (e) and is generally expressed in terms of d or e.

## **T.N.2. Tolerance Application.**

**T.N.2.1. General.** - The tolerance values are positive (+) and negative (-) with the weighing device adjusted to zero at no load. When tare is in use, the tolerance values are applied from the tare zero reference; the tolerance values apply to certified test loads only.

**T.N.2.2. Type Evaluation Examinations.** - For type evaluation examinations, the tolerance values apply to increasing and decreasing load tests within the temperature, power supply, and barometric pressure limits specified in T.N.8.

**T.N.2.3. Subsequent Verification Examinations.** - For subsequent verification examinations, the tolerance values apply regardless of the influence factors in effect at the time of the conduct of the examination. (Also see G-N.2.)

**T.N.2.4. Multi-Interval and Multiple Range (Variable Division-Value) Scales.** - For multi-interval and multiple range scales, the tolerance values are based on the value of the scale division of the range in use. (Amended 2000)

**T.N.2.5. Ratio Tests.** - For ratio tests, the tolerance values are 0.75 of the applicable tolerances.

## **T.N.3. Tolerance Values.**

**T.N.3.1. Maintenance Tolerance Values.** - The main-tenance tolerance values are as specified in Table 6.

**T.N.3.2. Acceptance Tolerance Values.** - The acceptance tolerance values shall be one-half the maintenance tolerance values.

**T.N.3.3. Wheel-Load Weighers and Portable Axle-Load Weighers of Class III.** - The tolerance values are two times the values specified in T.N.3.1. and T.N.3.2. (Amended 1986)

**T.N.3.4. Crane and Hopper (Other than Grain Hopper) Scales.** - The maintenance and acceptance tolerances shall be as specified in T.N.3.1. and T.N.3.2. for Class III L, except that the tolerance for crane and construction materials hopper scales shall not be less than 1d or 0.1 percent of the scale capacity, whichever is less. (Amended 1986)

**T.N.3.5. Separate Main Elements: Load Transmitting Element, Indicating Element, Etc.** - If a main element separate from a weighing device is submitted for type evaluation, the tolerance for the element is 0.7 that for the complete weighing device. This fraction includes the tolerance attributable to the testing devices used.

**T.N.3.6. Coupled-In-Motion Railroad Weighing Systems.** - The maintenance and acceptance tolerance values for the group of weight values appropriate to the application must satisfy the following conditions: (Amended 1990 and 1992)

**T.N.3.6.1.** - For any group of weight values, the difference in the sum of the individual in-motion car weights of the group as compared to the sum of the individual static weights shall not exceed 0.2 percent. (Amended 1990)

Table 6. Maintenance Tolerances (All values in this table are in scale divisions)				
Tolerance in Scale Divisions				
Class	1	2	3	5
	Test Load			
I	0 – 50 000	50 001 - 200 000	200 001 +	
II	0 – 5 000	5 001 - 20 000	20 001 +	
III	0 – 500	501 - 2 000	2 001 - 4 000	4 001 +
III	0 – 50	51 - 200	201 - 400	401 +
III L	0 – 500	501 - 1 000	(Add 1d for each additional 500d or fraction thereof)	

## 2.20. Scales

**T.N.3.6.2.** - If a weighing system is used to weigh trains of five or more cars, and if the individual car weights are used, any single weight value within the group must meet the following criteria:

- (a) no single error may exceed three times the static maintenance tolerance;
  - (b) not more than 5 percent of the errors may exceed two times the static maintenance tolerance; and
  - (c) not more than 35 percent of the errors may exceed the static maintenance tolerance.
- (Amended 1990 and 1992)

**T.N.3.6.3.** - For any group of weight values wherein the sole purpose is to determine the sum of the group, T.N.3.6.1. alone applies.  
(Amended 1990)

**T.N.3.6.4.** - For a weighing system used to weigh trains of less than five cars, no single car weight within the group may exceed the static maintenance tolerance.  
(Amended 1990 and 1992)

**T.N.3.7. Uncoupled-in-Motion Railroad Weighing Systems.** - The maintenance and acceptance tolerance values for any single weightment within a group of noninteractive (i.e., uncoupled) loads, the weightment error shall not exceed the static maintenance tolerance.  
(Amended 1992)

**T.N.3.8. Dynamic Monorail Weighing System.** - Acceptance tolerance shall be the same as the maintenance tolerance shown in Table 6. On a dynamic test of 20 or more individual test loads, 10 percent of the individual test loads may be in error, each not to exceed two times the tolerance. The error on the total of the individual test loads shall not exceed  $\pm 0.2$  percent. (See also Note in N.1.3.6.1.) *For equipment undergoing type evaluation, a tolerance equal to one-half the maintenance tolerance values shown in Table 6 shall apply.*  
[Nonretroactive January 1, 2002]  
(Added 1986) (Amended 1999 and 2001)

**T.N.3.9. Materials Test on Customer-Operated Bulk Weighing Systems for Recycled Materials.** - The maintenance and acceptance tolerance shall be  $\pm 5$  percent of the applied materials test load except that the average error on 10 or more test materials test loads shall not exceed  $\pm 2.5$  percent.  
(Added 1986)

**T.N.3.10. Prescription Scales with a Counting Feature.** In addition to Table 6 Maintenance Tolerances (for weight), the indicated piece count value computed by a Class I or Class II prescription scale counting feature shall comply with the tolerances in Table T.N.3.10.

<b>Table T.N.3.10. Maintenance and Acceptance Tolerances in Excess and in Deficiency for Count</b>	
Indication of Count	Tolerance (piece count)
0 to 100	0
101 to 200	1
201 or more	0.5%

(Added 2003)

**T.N.3.11. Tolerances for Substitution Test.** - Tolerances are applied to the scale based on the substitution test load.  
(Added 2003)

**T.N.3.12. Tolerances for Strain-Load Test.** - Tolerances apply only to the test weights or substitution test loads.  
(Added 2003)

## T.N.4. Agreement of Indications.

**T.N.4.1. Multiple Indicating/Recording Elements.** - In the case of a scale or weighing system equipped with more than one indicating element or indicating element and recording element combination, where the indicators or indicator/recorder combination are intended to be used independently of one another, tolerances shall be applied independently to each indicator or indicator/recorder combination.  
(Amended 1986)

**T.N.4.2. Single Indicating/Recording Element.** - In the case of a scale or weighing system with a single indicating element or an indicating/recording element combination and equipped with component parts such as unit weights, weighbeam and weights, or multiple weighbeams that can be used in combination to indicate a weight, the difference in the weight value indications of any load shall not be greater than the absolute value of the applicable tolerance for that load, and shall be within tolerance limits.  
(Amended 1986)

**T.N.4.3. Single Indicating Element/Multiple Indications.** - In the case of an analog indicating element equipped with two or more indicating means within the same element, the difference in the weight indications for any load other than zero shall not be greater than one-half the value of the scale division (d) and be within tolerance limits.  
(Amended 1986)



**T.N.4.4. Shift or Section Tests.** - The range of the results obtained during the conduct of a shift test or a section test shall not exceed the absolute value of the maintenance tolerance applicable and each test result shall be within applicable tolerances.

(Added 1986)

**T.N.4.5. Time Dependence.** - A time dependence test shall be conducted during type evaluation and may be conducted during field verification provided test conditions remain constant.

(Amended 1989 and 2005)

**T.N.4.5.1. Time Dependence; Class II, III, and III Non-Automatic Weighing Instruments.** - A non-automatic weighing instrument of classes II, III, and III shall meet the following requirements at constant test conditions:

- (a) When any load is kept on an instrument, the difference between the indication obtained immediately after placing the load and the indication observed during the following 30 minutes shall not exceed 0.5 e.
- (b) However, the difference between the indication obtained at 15 minutes and that at 30 minutes shall not exceed 0.2 e. If these conditions are not met, the difference between the indication obtained immediately after placing the load on the instrument and the indication observed during the following 4 hours shall not exceed the absolute value of the maximum permissible error at the load applied.
- (c) The deviation on returning to zero as soon as the indication has stabilized, after the removal of any load which has remained on the instrument for 30 minutes, shall not exceed 0.5 e.

For a multi-interval instrument, the deviation shall not exceed 0.5 e<sub>1</sub> (first weighing segment).

On a multiple range instrument, the deviation on returning to zero from Max<sub>i</sub> (load in the applicable weighing range) shall not exceed 0.5 e<sub>i</sub> (interval of the weighing segment). Furthermore, after returning to zero from any load greater than Max<sub>1</sub> (capacity of the first weighing range) and immediately after switching to the lowest weighing range, the indication near zero shall not vary by more than e<sub>1</sub> (interval of the first weighing range) during the following 5 minutes.

(Added 2005)

**T.N.4.5.2. Time Dependence; Class III L Non-Automatic Weighing Instruments.** - A non-automatic weighing instrument of class III L shall meet the following requirements:

- (a) When any load is kept on an instrument, the difference between the indication obtained immediately after placing the load and the indication observed during the following 30 minutes shall not exceed 1.5 e.
  - (b) However, the difference between the indication obtained at 15 minutes and that at 30 minutes shall not exceed 0.6 e. If these conditions are not met, the difference between the indication obtained immediately after placing the load on the instrument and the indication observed during the following 4 hours shall not exceed the absolute value of the maximum permissible error at the load applied.
  - (c) The deviation on returning to zero as soon as the indication has stabilized, after the removal of any load which has remained on the instrument for 30 minutes, shall not exceed one-half of the absolute value of the applicable tolerance for the applied load for class III L devices.
- (Added 2005)

**T.N.4.6. Time Dependence (Creep) for Load Cells During Type Evaluation.** - A load cell (force transducer) marked with an accuracy class shall meet the following requirements at constant test conditions:

- (a) **Permissible Variations of Readings.** - With a constant maximum load for the measuring range (D<sub>max</sub>) between 90% and 100% of maximum capacity (E<sub>max</sub>), applied to the load cell, the difference between the initial reading and any reading obtained during the next 30 minutes shall not exceed the absolute value of the maximum permissible error (mpe) for the applied load (see Table T.N.4.6.). The difference between the reading obtained at 20 minutes and the reading obtained at 30 minutes shall not exceed 0.15 times the absolute value of the mpe (see Table T.N.4.6.).
- (b) **Apportionment Factors.** - The mpe for creep shall be determined from Table T.N.4.6. Maximum Permissible Error (mpe)\* for Load Cells using the following apportionment factors (p<sub>LC</sub>):

p<sub>LC</sub> = 0.7 for load cells marked with S (single load cell applications), and

p<sub>LC</sub> = 1.0 for load cells marked with M (multiple load cell applications)

(Added 2005)

**T.N.5. Repeatability.** - The results obtained from several weighings of the same load under reasonably static test conditions shall agree within the absolute value of the maintenance tolerance for that load, and shall be within applicable tolerances.

## 2.20. Scales

**Table T.N.4.6.**  
**Maximum Permissible Error (mpe)\* for Load Cells**  
**During Type Evaluation**

<b>mpe in Load Cell Verifications Divisions (v) = <math>p_{LC} \times</math> Basic Tolerance in v</b>			
Class	$p_{LC} \times 0.5 \text{ v}$	$p_{LC} \times 1.0 \text{ v}$	$p_{LC} \times 1.5 \text{ v}$
I	0 – 50 000 v	50 001 v – 200 000 v	200 001 v +
II	0 – 5 000 v	5 001 v – 20 000 v	20 001 v +
III	0 – 500 v	501 v – 2 000 v	2 001 v +
III L	0 – 50 v	51 v – 200 v	201 v +
III L	0 – 500 v	501 v – 1 000 v	(Add 0.5 v to the basic tolerance for each additional 500 v or fraction thereof up to a maximum load of 10 000 v)

v represents the load cell verification interval  
 $p_{LC}$  represents the apportionment factors applied to the basic tolerance  
 $p_{LC} = 0.7$  for load cells marked with S (single load cell applications)  
 $p_{LC} = 1.0$  for load cells marked with M (multiple load cell applications)  
 \* mpe =  $p_{LC} \times$  Basic Tolerance in load cell verifications divisions (v)

(Table Added 2005)

**T.N.6. Sensitivity.** - This section is applicable to all non-automatic-indicating scales marked I, II, III, III L, or IIII.

### **T.N.6.1. Test Load.**

- The test load for sensitivity for nonautomatic-indicating vehicle, axle-load, livestock, and animal scales shall be 1d for scales equipped with balance indicators, and 2d or 0.2 percent of the scale capacity, whichever is less, for scales not equipped with balance indicators.
- For all other nonautomatic-indicating scales, the test load for sensitivity shall be 1d at zero and 2d at maximum test load.

**T.N.6.2. Minimum Change of Indications.** - The addition or removal of the test load for sensitivity shall cause a minimum permanent change as follows:

- for a scale with trig loop but without a balance indicator, the position of the weighbeam shall change from the center to the outer limit of the trig loop;
- for a scale with balance indicator, the position of the indicator shall change one division on the graduated scale, the width of the central target area, or the applicable value as shown below, whichever is greater;

Scale of Class I or II: 1 mm (0.04 in),

Scale of Class III or IIII with a maximum capacity of 30 kg (70 lb) or less: 2 mm (0.08 in),

Scale of Class III, III L, or IIII with a maximum capacity of more than 30 kg (70 lb): 5 mm (0.20 in);

- for a scale without a trig loop or balance indicator, the position of rest of the weighbeam or lever system shall change from the horizontal or midway between limiting stops to either limit of motion.  
(Amended 1987)

### **T.N.7. Discrimination.**

**T.N.7.1. Analog Automatic Indicating (i.e., Weighing Device With Dial, Drum, Fan, Etc.).** - A test load equivalent to 1.4d shall cause a change in the indication of at least 1.0d. (See N.1.5.)

**T.N.7.2. Digital Automatic Indicating.** - A test load equivalent to 1.4d shall cause a change in the indicated or recorded value of at least 2.0d. This requires the zone of uncertainty to be not greater than three-tenths of the value of the scale division. (See N.1.5.1.)

**T.N.8. Influence Factors.** - The following factors are applicable to tests conducted under controlled conditions only, provided that:

- types of devices approved prior to January 1, 1986, and manufactured prior to January 1, 1988, need not meet the requirements of this section, and
- new types of devices submitted for approval after January 1, 1986, shall comply with the requirements of this section, and
- all devices manufactured after January 1, 1988, shall comply with the requirements of this section.  
(Amended 1985)

**T.N.8.1. Temperature.** - Devices shall satisfy the tolerance requirements under the following temperature conditions:

**T.N.8.1.1.** If not specified in the operating instructions for Class I or II scales, or if not marked on the device for Class III, III L, or IIII scales, the temperature limits shall be:

-10 °C to 40 °C (14 °F to 104 °F)

**T.N.8.1.2.** If temperature limits are specified for the device, the range shall be at least that specified in Table T.N.8.1.2.

Table T.N.8.1.2. Temperature Range by Class	
Class	Temperature Range
I	5 °C (9 °F)
II	15 °C (27 °F)
III, III L, & IIII	30 °C (54 °F)

**T.N.8.1.3. Temperature Effect on Zero-Load Balance.** - The zero-load indication shall not vary by more than:

(a) three divisions per 5 °C (9 °F) change in temperature for Class III L devices; or

(b) one division per 5 °C (9 °F) change in temperature for all other devices.

(Amended 1990)

**T.N.8.1.4. Operating Temperature.** - Except for Class I and II devices, an indicating or recording element shall not display nor record any usable values until the operating temperature necessary for accurate weighing and a stable zero balance condition have been attained.

**T.N.8.2. Barometric Pressure.** - Except for Class I scales, the zero indication shall not vary by more than one scale division for a change in barometric pressure of 1 kPa over the total barometric pressure range of 95 kPa to 105 kPa (28 to 31 in of Hg).

### **T.N.8.3. Electric Power Supply.**

#### **T.N.8.3.1. Power Supply, Voltage and Frequency.**

(a) Weighing devices that operate using alternating current must perform within the conditions defined in paragraphs T.N.3. through T.N.7., inclusive, when tested over the range of -15% to +10% of the marked nominal line voltage(s) at 60 Hz, or the voltage range marked by the manufacturer, at 60 Hz.

(Amended 2003 and 2004)

(b) Battery operated instruments shall not indicate nor record values outside the applicable tolerance limits when battery power output is excessive or deficient.

**T.N.8.3.2. Power Interruption.** - A power interruption shall not cause an indicating or recording element to display or record any values outside the applicable tolerance limits.

**T.N.9. Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) and Other Electromagnetic Interference Susceptibility.** - The difference between the weight indication due to the disturbance and the weight indication without the disturbance shall not exceed one scale division (d); or the equipment shall:

(a) blank the indication, or

(b) provide an error message, or

(c) the indication shall be so completely unstable that it cannot be interpreted, or transmitted into memory or to a recording element, as a correct measurement value.

(Added 1986)

The tolerance in T.N.9. is to be applied independently of other tolerances. For example, if indications are at allowable basic tolerance error limits when the disturbance occurs, then it is acceptable for the indication to exceed the applicable basic tolerances during the disturbance. [Editors' Note: Following the 1997 NCWM Annual Meeting, the text in this paragraph was revised with concurrence of the S&T Committee to clarify its application.]

(Amended 1997)

## **UR. User Requirements**

**UR.1. Selection Requirements.** - Equipment shall be suitable for the service in which it is used with respect to elements of its design, including but not limited to, its capacity, number of scale divisions, value of the scale division or verification scale division, minimum capacity, and computing capability.<sup>4</sup>

### **UR.1.1. General.**

(a) For devices marked with a class designation, the typical class or type of device for particular weighing applications is shown in Table 7a.

(b) For devices not marked with a class designation, Table 7b applies.

<sup>4</sup> Purchasers and users of scales such as railway track, hopper, and vehicle scales should be aware of possible additional requirements for the design and installation of such devices. (Footnote Added 1995)

## 2.20. Scales

Table 7a. Typical Class or Type of Device for Weighing Applications	
Class	Weighing Application or Scale Type
I	Precision laboratory weighing
II	Laboratory weighing, precious metals and gem weighing, grain test scales
III	All commercial weighing not otherwise specified, grain test scales, retail precious metals and semi-precious gem weighing, animal scales, postal scales, vehicle on-board weighing systems with a capacity less than or equal to 30 000 lb, and scales used to determine laundry charges
III L	Vehicle scales, vehicle on-board weighing systems with a capacity greater than 30 000 lb, axle-load scales, livestock scales, railway track scales, crane scales, and hopper (other than grain hopper) scales
IIII	Wheel-load weighers and portable axle-load weighers used for highway weight enforcement
Note: A scale with a higher accuracy class than that specified as “typical” may be used. (Amended 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1992, 1995, 2004 and 2005)	

Table 7b. Applicable to Devices Not Marked With a Class Designation	
Scale Type or Design	Maximum Value of d
Retail Food Scales, 50-lb capacity and less	1 ounce
Animal Scales	1 pound
Grain Hopper Scales Capacity up to and incl. 50 000 lb Capacity over 50 000 lb	10 pounds (but not greater than 0.05 % of capacity) 20 pounds
Crane Scales	not greater than 0.2 % of capacity
Vehicle and Axle-Load Scales Used in Combination Capacity up to and including 200 000 lb Capacity over 200 000 lb	20 pounds 50 pounds
Railway Track Scales With weighbeam Automatic indicating	20 pounds 100 pounds
Scales with capacities greater than 500 lb except otherwise specified	0.1 % capacity (but not greater than 50 lb)
Wheel-Load Weighers	.25 % capacity (but not greater than 50 lb)
Note: For scales not specified in this table, G-UR.1.1. and UR.1. apply. (Added 1985) (Amended 1989)	

**UR.1.2. Grain Hopper Scales.** - The minimum number of scale divisions for a Class III Hopper Scale used for weighing grain shall be 2 000.

**UR.1.3. Value of the Indicated and Recorded Scale Division.** - *The value of the scale division as recorded shall be the same as the division value indicated.*

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1986]*

(Added 1985) (Amended 1999)

**UR.1.3.1. Exceptions.** - *The provisions of UR.1.3. Value of the Indicated and Recorded Scale Division shall not apply to:*

(a) *Class I scales, or*

(b) *Dynamic monorail weighing systems when the value of d is less than the value of e.*

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1986.]*

(Added 1999)

**UR.1.4. Grain-Test Scales: Value of the Scale Divisions.** - The scale division for grain-test scales shall not exceed 0.2 g for loads through 500 g, and shall not exceed 1 g for loads above 500 g through 1 000 g.  
(Added 1992)

**UR.1.5. Recording Element, Class III L Railway Track Scales.** - *Class III L Railway Track Scales must be equipped with a recording element.*

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1996.]*

(Added 1995)

## **UR.2. Installation Requirements.**

**UR.2.1. Supports.** - A scale that is portable and that is being used on a counter, table, or the floor shall be so positioned that it is firmly and securely supported.

**UR.2.2. Suspension of Hanging Scale.** - A hanging scale shall be freely suspended from a fixed support when in use.

**UR.2.3. Protection From Environmental Factors.** - The indicating elements, the lever system or load cells, and the load-receiving element of a permanently installed scale, and the indicating elements of a scale not intended to be permanently installed, shall be adequately protected from environmental factors such as wind, weather, and RFI that may adversely affect the operation or performance of the device.

**UR.2.4. Foundation, Supports, and Clearance.** - The foundation and supports of any scale installed in a fixed location shall be such as to provide strength, rigidity, and permanence of all components, and clearance shall be provided around all live parts to the extent that no contacts may result when the load-receiving element is empty, nor throughout the weighing range of the scale. *On vehicle and livestock scales, the clearance between the load-receiving elements and the coping at the bottom edge of the platform shall be greater than at the top edge of the platform.*

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1973.]*

**UR.2.5. Access to Weighing Elements.** - Adequate provision shall be made for ready access to the pit of a vehicle, livestock, animal, axle-load, or railway track scale for the purpose of inspection and maintenance. Any of these scales without a pit shall be installed with adequate means for inspection and maintenance of the weighing elements.

(Amended 1985)

## **UR.2.6. Approaches.**

### **UR.2.6.1. Vehicle Scales.**

**[NOT ADOPTED]**

**UR.2.6.2. Axle-Load Scales.** - At each end of an axle-load scale there shall be a straight paved approach in the same plane as the platform. The approaches shall be the same width as the platform and of sufficient length to insure the level positioning of vehicles during weight determinations.

**UR.2.7. Stock Racks.** - A livestock or animal scale shall be equipped with a suitable stock rack, with gates as required, which shall be securely mounted on the scale platform. Adequate clearances shall be maintained around the outside of the rack.

**UR.2.8. Hoists.** - On vehicle scales equipped with means for raising the load-receiving element from the weighing element for vehicle unloading, means shall be provided so that it is readily apparent to the scale operator when the load receiving element is in its designed weighing position.

**UR.2.9. Provision for Testing Dynamic Monorail Weighing Systems.** - Provisions shall be made at the time of installation of a dynamic monorail weighing systems for testing in accordance with N.1.3.6.1. (a rail around or other means for returning the test carcasses to the scale being tested).

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1998]*

(Added 1997) (Amended 1999)

## 2.20. Scales

### UR.3. Use Requirements.

**UR.3.1. Recommended Minimum Load.** - A recommended minimum load is specified in Table 8 since the use of a device to weigh light loads is likely to result in relatively large errors.

**UR.3.1.1. Minimum Load, Grain Dockage Determination.** - When determining the quantity of foreign material (dockage) in grain, the weight of the sample shall be equal to or greater than 500 scale divisions.  
(Added 1985)

**UR.3.2. Maximum Load.** - A scale shall not be used to weigh a load of more than the nominal capacity of the scale.

**UR.3.2.1. Maximum Loading for Vehicle Scales.** - A vehicle scale shall not be used to weigh loads exceeding the maximum load capacity of its span as specified in Table UR.3.2.1.  
(Added 1996)

**UR.3.3. Single-Draft Vehicle Weighing.** - A vehicle or a coupled vehicle combination shall be commercially weighed on a vehicle scale only as a single draft. That is, the total weight of such a vehicle or combination shall not be determined by adding together the results obtained by separately and not simultaneously weighing each end of such vehicle or individual elements of such coupled combination. However:

- (a) the weight of a coupled combination may be determined by uncoupling the various elements (tractor, semitrailer, trailer), weighing each unit separately as a single draft, and adding together the results, or
- (b) the weight of a vehicle or coupled-vehicle combination may be determined by adding together the weights obtained while all individual elements are resting simultaneously on more than one scale platform.

[Note: This paragraph does not apply to highway-law-enforcement scales and scales used for the collection of statistical data.]  
(Added 1992)

Table 8. Recommended Minimum Load		
Class	Value of scale division (d or e*)	Recommended minimum load (d or e*)
I	equal to or greater than 0.001 g	100
II	0.001 to 0.05 g, inclusive	20
	equal to or greater than 0.1 g	7 50
III	All**	20
III L	All	50
III	All	10
<p>* For Class I and II devices equipped with auxiliary reading means (i.e., a rider, a vernier, or a least significant decimal differentiated by size, shape or color), the value of the verification scale division “e” is the value of the scale division immediately preceding the auxiliary means. For Class III and III devices the value of “e” is specified by the manufacturer as marked on the device; “e” must be less than or equal to “d.”</p> <p>** A minimum load of 10d is recommended for a weight classifier marked in accordance with a statement identifying its use for special applications. (Amended 1990)</p>		

**UR.3.4. Wheel-Load Weighing.**

**UR.3.4.1. Use in Pairs.** - When wheel-load weighers or portable axle-load weighers are to be regularly used in pairs, both weighers of each such pair shall be appropriately marked to identify them as weighers intended to be used in combination.

**UR.3.4.2. Level Condition.** - A vehicle of which either an axle-load determination or a gross-load determination is being made utilizing wheel-load weighers or portable axle-load weighers, shall be in a reasonably level position at the time of such determination.

**UR.3.5. Special Designs.** - A scale designed and marked for a special application (such as a prepackaging scale or prescription scale with a counting feature) shall not be used for other than its intended purpose.<sup>4</sup>  
(Amended 2003)

**UR.3.6. Wet Commodities.** - Wet commodities not in watertight containers shall be weighed only on a scale having a pan or platform that will drain properly.  
(Amended 1988)

**UR.3.7. Minimum Load on a Vehicle Scale.**  
**[NOT ADOPTED]**

**4002.2. Scales (2.20.)**

**(b) Minimum Load on a Vehicle Scale.**  
**Except for weighments of ferrous metals, cardboard, paper, rags or plastic, and the weighing of vehicles for registration purposes, a vehicle scale shall not be used for weighing net loads less than the value of 20 scale divisions.**

<sup>4</sup> Prepackaging scales and prescription scales with a counting feature (and other commercial devices) used for putting up packages in advance of sale are acceptable for use in commerce only if all appropriate provisions of Handbook 44 are met. Users of such devices must be alert to the legal requirements relating to the declaration of quantity on a package. Such requirements are to the effect that, on the average, the contents of the individual packages of a particular commodity comprising a lot, shipment, or delivery must contain at least the quantity declared on the label. The fact that a prepackaging scale may overregister, but within established tolerances, and is approved for commercial service is not a legal justification for packages to contain, on the average, less than the labeled quantity. (Amended 2003)

**4002.2. Scales (2.20.)**

**(c) Class III, Class III L and Unmarked Devices Used For Recycling.** **Except for weighments of ferrous metals, cardboard, paper, rags, or plastic, Class III, Class III L and unmarked devices used in recycling shall not be used for weighing net loads less than the value of 20 scale divisions.**

**UR.3.8. Minimum Load for Weighing Livestock.** - A scale with scale divisions greater than 2 kg (5 lb) shall not be used for weighing net loads smaller than 500d.  
(Amended 1989)

**UR.3.9. Use of Manual Weight Entries.** - Manual gross or net weight entries are permitted for use in the following applications only:

- (1) when a point-of-sale system interfaced with a scale is giving credit for a weighed item;
  - (2) when an item is pre-weighed on a legal for trade scale and marked with the correct net weight;
  - (3) when a device or system is generating labels for standard weight packages;
  - (4) when postal scales or weight classifiers are generating manifests for packages to be picked up at a later time; or
  - (5) when livestock and vehicle scale systems generate weight tickets to correct erroneous tickets.
- (Added 1992) (Amended 2000 and 2004)

**UR.3.10. Dynamic Monorail Weighing Systems.** - When the value of d is different from the value of e, the commercial transaction must be based on e.  
(Added 1999)

**UR.3.11. Minimum Count.** - A prescription scale with an operational counting feature shall not be used to count a quantity of less than 30 pieces weighing a minimum of 90 e.  
(Added 2003) (Amended 2004)

**Note:** The minimum count as defined in this paragraph refers to the use of the device in the filling of prescriptions and is different from the minimum sample piece count as defined in S.1.2.3. and as required to be marked on the scale by S.6.6.  
(Note Added 2004)

## 2.20. Scales

**UR.3.12. Correct Stored Piece Weight.** – For prescription scales with a counting feature, the user is responsible for maintaining the correct stored piece weight. This is especially critical when a medicine has been reformulated or comes from different lots.  
(Added 2003)

### **UR.4. Maintenance Requirements.**

**UR.4.1. Balance Condition.** - The zero-load adjustment of a scale shall be maintained so that, with no load on the load-receiving element and with all load-counter-balancing elements of the scale (such as poises, drop weights, or counterbalance weights) set to zero, the scale shall indicate or record a zero balance condition. A scale not equipped to indicate or record a zero-load balance shall be maintained in balance under any no-load condition.

**UR.4.2. Level Condition.** - If a scale is equipped with a level-condition indicator, the scale shall be maintained in level.

**UR.4.3. Scale Modification.** - The dimensions (e.g., length, width, thickness, etc.) of the load receiving element of a scale shall not be changed beyond the manufacturer's specifications, nor shall the capacity of a scale be increased beyond its design capacity by replacing or modifying the original primary indicating or recording element with one of a higher capacity, except when the modification has been approved by a competent engineering authority, preferably that of the engineering department of the manufacturer of the scale, and by the weights and measures authority having jurisdiction over the scale.  
(Amended 1996)

**UR.5. Coupled-in-Motion Railroad Weighing Systems.-** A coupled-in-motion weighing system placed in service on or after January 1, 1991, should be tested in the manner in which it is operated, with the locomotive either pushing or pulling the cars at the designed speed and in the proper direction. The cars used in the test train should represent the range of gross weights that will be used during the normal operation of the weighing system. Except as provided in N.4.2. and N.4.3.(a), normal operating procedures should be simulated as nearly as practical. Approach conditions for a train length in each direction of the scale site are more critical for a weighing system used for individual car weights than for a unit-train-weights-only facility, and should be considered prior to installation.  
(Added 1990) (Amended 1992)



## Sec. 2.21. Belt-Conveyor Scale Systems

### A. Application

**A.1.** This code applies to belt-conveyor scale systems used for the weighing of bulk materials.

**A.2.** The code does not apply to:

- (a) devices used for discrete weighing while moving on conveyors;
- (b) devices that measure quantity on a time basis;
- (c) check-weighers; or
- (d) controllers or other auxiliary devices except as they may affect the weighing performance of the belt-conveyor scale.

**A.3.** See also General Code requirements.

### S. Specifications

#### S.1. Design of Indicating and Recording Elements.

**S.1.1. General.** - A belt-conveyor scale shall be equipped with a primary indicating element in the form of a master weight totalizer *and shall also be equipped with a recording element, and a rate of flow indicator and recorder (which may be analog).*\* An auxiliary indicator shall not be considered part of the master weight totalizer.  
[\*Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1986.]  
(Amended 1986)

**S.1.2. Units.** - A belt-conveyor scale shall indicate and record weight units in terms of pounds, tons, long tons, metric tons, or kilograms. The value of a scale division (d) expressed in a unit of weight shall be equal to:

- (a) 1, 2, or 5, or
- (b) a decimal multiple or submultiple of 1, 2, or 5.

#### S.1.3. Value of the Scale Division.

**S.1.3.1. For Scales Installed After January 1, 1986.** *The value of the scale division shall not be greater than 0.1 percent (1/1 000) of the minimum totalized load.*  
[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1986.]

**S.1.3.2. For Scales Installed Before January 1, 1986.** - The value of the scale division shall not be greater than 1/1200 of the rated capacity of the device.

However, provision shall be made so that compliance with the requirements of the zero-load test as prescribed in N.3.1. may be readily and accurately determined in 20 minutes of operation.

**S.1.4. Recording Elements and Recorded Representations.** - *The value of the scale division of the recording element shall be the same as that of the indicating element. The belt-conveyor scale system shall record the initial indication and the final indication of the master weight totalizer\*, the quantity delivered\*, the unit of measurement (i.e., kilograms, tonnes, pounds, tons, etc.), the date, and time. This information shall be recorded for each delivery\*.*

[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1986.]

[\*Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1994.]

(Amended 1993)

**S.1.4.1.** *The belt-conveyor scale system shall be capable of recording the results of automatic or semi-automatic zero load tests.\*\**

[\*\*Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2004.]

(Added 2002)

**S.1.5. Rate of Flow Indicators and Recorders.** - *A belt-conveyor scale shall be equipped with a rate of flow indicator and an analog or digital recorder. Permanent means shall be provided to produce an audio or visual signal when the rate of flow is equal to or less than 20% and when the rate of flow is equal to or greater than 100% of the rated capacity of the scale. The type of alarm (audio or visual) shall be determined by the individual installation.*

[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1986.]

(Amended 1989 and 2004)

**S.1.6. Advancement of Primary Indicating or Recording Elements.** - The master weight totalizer shall advance only when the belt conveyor is in operation and under load.

(Amended 1989)

**S.1.7. Master Weight Totalizer.** - *The master weight totalizer shall not be resettable without breaking a security means.*

[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1986.]

**S.1.8. Power Loss.** - *In the event of a power failure of up to 24 hours, the accumulated measured quantity on the master weight totalizer of an electronic digital indicator shall be retained in memory during the power loss.*

[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1986.]

(Amended 1989)

## 2.21. Belt-Conveyor Scale Systems

**S.2. Design of Weighing Elements.** - A belt-conveyor scale system shall be designed to combine automatically belt travel with belt load to provide a determination of the weight of the material that has passed over the scale.

**S.2.1. Speed Measurement.** - A belt-conveyor scale shall be equipped with a belt speed or travel sensor that will accurately sense the belt speed or travel whether the belt is empty or loaded.

**S.2.2. Adjustable Components.** - An adjustable component that can affect the performance of the device (except as prescribed in S.3.1) shall be held securely in adjustment and shall not be capable of adjustment without breaking a security means.

**S.2.3. Overload Protection.** - The load-receiving elements shall be equipped with means for overload protection of not less than 150 percent of rated capacity. The accuracy of the scale in its normal loading range, shall not be affected by overloading.

### S.3. Zero Setting.

**S.3.1. Design of Zero-Setting Mechanism.** - Automatic and semiautomatic zero-setting mechanisms shall be so constructed that the resetting operation is carried out only after a whole number of belt revolutions and the completion of the setting or the whole operation is indicated. *An audio or visual signal shall be given when the automatic and semiautomatic zero-setting mechanisms reach the limit of adjustment of the zero-setting mechanism.\**

*Except for systems that record the zero load reference at the beginning and end of a delivery, the range of the zero-setting mechanism shall not be greater than  $\pm 2\%$  of the rated capacity of the scale without breaking the security means. For systems that record the zero load reference at the beginning and end of a delivery, the range of zero-setting mechanism shall not be greater than  $\pm 5\%$  without breaking the security means.\*\**

*[\*Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1990]*

*[\*\*Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2004]  
(Amended 1989, 2002 and 2005)*

**S.3.2. Sensitivity at Zero Load (For Type Evaluation).** - *When a system is operated for a time period equal to the time required to deliver the minimum test load and with a test load calculated to indicate two scale divisions applied directly to the weighing element, the totalizer shall advance not less than one or more than three scale divisions. An alternative test of equivalent sensitivity, as specified by the manufacturer, shall also be acceptable.*

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1986.]*

**S.4. Marking Requirements.** - A belt-conveyor scale shall be marked with the following: (Also see G-S.1.)

- (a) the rated capacity in units of weight per hour (minimum and maximum);
- (b) the value of the scale division;
- (c) the belt speed in terms of feet (or meters) per minute at which the belt will deliver the rated capacity;
- (d) the load in terms of pounds per foot or kilograms per meter (determined by materials tests);
- (e) *the operational temperature range if other than -10 to 40 °C (14 to 104 °F).*

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1986.]*

**S.5. Provision for Sealing.** - *A device shall be designed using the format set forth in Table S.5. with provision(s) for applying a security seal that must be broken, or for using other approved means of providing security (e.g. data change audit trail available at the time of inspection), before any change that affects the metrological integrity of the device can be made to any electronic mechanism.*

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1999]*

*Added 1998)*

Table S.5. Categories of Device and Methods of Sealing

<i>Categories of Devices</i>	<i>Method of Sealing</i>
<i>Category 1: No remote configuration capability.</i>	<i>Seal by physical seal or two event counters: one for calibration parameters and one for configuration parameters.</i>
<i>Category 3: Remote configuration capability.</i>	<i>An event logger is required in the device; it must include an event counter (000 to 999), the parameter ID, the date and time of the change, and the new value of the parameter. A printed copy of the information must be available through the device or through another on-site device. The event logger shall have a capacity to retain records equal to ten times the number of sealable parameters in the device, but not more than 1000 records are required. (Note: Does not require 1000 changes to be stored for each parameter.)</i>

*(Nonretroactive as January 1, 1998) (Table Added 1998)*

## N. Notes

**N.1. General.** - Belt-conveyor scales are capable of weighing bulk material accurately. (See Tolerances.) However, their performance can be detrimentally affected by the conditions of the installation. (See User Requirements.) The performance of the equipment is not to be determined by averaging the results of the individual tests. The results of all tests shall be within the tolerance limits.  
(Amended 2002)

**N.1.1. Official Test.** - An official test of a belt-conveyor scale system shall be a materials test.

**N.1.2. Simulated Test.** - Simulated loading conditions as recommended by the manufacturer and approved by the official with statutory authority may be used to properly monitor the systems operational performance between official tests, but shall not be used for official certification.  
(Amended 1991)

**N.2. Conditions of Tests.** - A belt-conveyor scale shall be tested after it is installed on the conveyor system with which it is to be used and under such environmental conditions as may normally be expected. Each test shall be conducted with test loads no less than the minimum test load.  
(Amended 1986 and 2004)

**N.2.1. Initial Verification.** - A belt-conveyor scale system shall be tested at the normal use flow rate, 35% of the maximum rated capacity, and an intermediate flow rate between these two points. The system may also be tested at any other rate of flow that may be used at the installation.  
(Added 2004)

**N.2.2. Subsequent Verification.** - Subsequent testing shall include testing at the normal use flow rate and other flow rates used at the installation. The official with statutory authority may determine that testing only at the normal use flow rate is necessary for subsequent verifications if evidence is provided that the system is used to operate:

- (a) at no less than 70% of the maximum rated capacity for at least 80% of the time (excluding time that the belt is unloaded), or
- (b) with a normal use flow rate that does not vary by more than 10% of the maximum rated capacity.

**Example:** If a belt-conveyor scale system has a maximum rated capacity of 200 tons per hour (tph), and the normal use flow rate is 150 tph (75% of the maximum rated capacity), no testing at additional flow rates is required provided the flow rates remain above 140 tph for more than 80% of the time. If the same device were operating

operating with a normal use flow rate of 130 tph, it is operating at 65% of the maximum rated capacity. In this case, testing at flow rates in addition to the normal use flow rate would be required if the normal use flow rate varies by more than 20 tph (10% of the maximum rated capacity).  
(Added 2004)

**N.2.3. Minimum Test Load.** - The minimum test load shall not be less than the largest of the following values.

- (a) 800 scale divisions,
- (b) the load obtained at maximum flow rate in one revolution of the belt, or
- (c) at least 10 minutes of operation.

The official with statutory authority may determine that a smaller minimum totalized load down to 2% of the load totalized in one hour at the maximum flow rate may be used for subsequent tests, provided that:

- 1. the smaller minimum totalized load is greater than the quantities specified in (a) and (b), and
- 2. consecutive official testing with the minimum totalized loads described in N.2.3. (a), (b), or (c) and the smaller minimum test load has been conducted that demonstrates the system complies with applicable tolerances for repeatability, acceptance, and maintenance.

(Added 2004)

## N.3. Test Procedures.

**N.3.1. Zero Load Tests.** - A zero-load test shall be conducted to establish that the belt scale system (including the conveyor) is capable of holding a stable, in-service zero.

(Amended 1989 and 2002)

**N.3.1.1. Determination of Zero.** - A "Zero-Load Test" is a determination of the error in zero, expressed as an internal reference, a percentage of the full-scale capacity, or a change in a totalized load over a whole number of complete belt revolutions. For belt-conveyor scales with electronic integrators, the test must be performed over a period of at least 3 minutes and with a whole number of complete belt revolutions. For belt-conveyor scales with mechanical integrators, the test shall be performed with no less than three complete revolutions or 10 minutes operation, whichever is greater.

(Added 2002)

## 2.21. Belt-Conveyor Scale Systems

**N.3.1.2. Initial Stable Zero.** - The conveyor system shall be run to warm up the belt and the belt scale shall be zero adjusted as required. A series of zero-load tests shall be carried out until three consecutive zero-load tests each indicate an error which does not exceed  $\pm 0.06\%$  of the totalized load at full scale capacity for the duration of the test. No adjustments can be made during the three consecutive zero-load test readings.

(Added 2002) (Amended 2004)

**N.3.1.3. Test of Zero Stability.** - The conveyor system shall be operated to warm up the belt and the belt scale shall be zero adjusted as required. A series of zero-load tests shall be carried out immediately before the simulated or materials test until the three consecutive zero-load tests each indicate an error which does not exceed  $\pm 0.06\%$  of the totalized load at full scale capacity for the duration of the test. No adjustments can be made during the three consecutive zero-load test readings.

(Added 2002) (Amended 2004)

**N.3.1.4. Check For Consistency of the Conveyor Belt Along Its Entire Length.** - After a zero-load test with flow rate filtering disabled, the totalizer shall not change more than plus or minus ( $\pm 3d$ ) three scale divisions from its initial indication during one complete belt revolution.

(Added 2002) (Amended 2004)

**N.3.2. Material Tests.** - Material tests should be conducted using actual belt loading conditions. These belt loading conditions shall include, but are not limited to conducting materials tests using different belt loading points, all types and sizes of products weighed on the scale, at least one other belt speed, and in both directions of weighing.

On initial verification, at least 3 individual material tests shall be conducted. On subsequent verifications, at least 2 individual tests shall be conducted. The results of all these tests shall be within the tolerance limits.

(Amended 2005)

Either pass a quantity of pre-weighed material over the belt-conveyor scale in a manner as similar as feasible to actual loading conditions, or weigh all material that has passed over the belt-conveyor scale. Means for weighing the material test load will depend on the capacity of the belt-conveyor scale and availability of a suitable scale for the test. To assure that the test load is accurately weighed and determined, the following precautions shall be observed:

(Amended 2002)

(a) The containers, whether railroad cars, trucks, or boxes, must not leak, and shall not be overloaded to the point that material will be lost.

(b) The actual empty or tare weight of the containers shall be determined at the time of the test. Stenciled tare weight of railway cars or trucks shall not be used. Gross and tare weights shall be determined on the same scale.

(c) When a pre-weighed test load is passed over the scale, the belt loading hopper shall be examined before and after the test to assure that the hopper is empty and that only the material of the test load has passed over the scale.

(d) Where practicable, a reference scale should be tested within 24 hours preceding the determination of the weight of the test load used for a belt-conveyor scale material test.

A reference scale which is not "as found" within maintenance tolerance should have its accuracy re-verified after the belt-conveyor test with a suitable known weight load if the "as found" error of the belt-conveyor scale material test exceeds maintenance tolerance values.

(e) If any suitable known weight load other than a certified test weight load is used for re-verification of the reference scale accuracy, its weight shall be determined on the reference scale after the reference scale certification and before commencing the belt scale material test.

**Note:** Even if the reference scale is within maintenance tolerance it may require adjusting to be able to meet paragraph N.3.2.1.

(f) The test shall not be conducted if the weight of the test load has been affected by environmental conditions.

(Amended 1986, 1989, 1998, 2000 and 2002)

**N.3.2.1. Accuracy of Material.** - The quantity of material used to conduct a material test shall be weighed on a reference scale to an accuracy within 0.1 percent. Scales typically used for this purpose include Class III and III L scales or a scale without a class designation as described in Handbook 44, Section 2.20, Table T.1.1.

(Added 1989) (Amended 1991, 1993, 1998 and 2000)

- (l) **Belt Composition and Maintenance.** - Conveyor belting shall be no heavier than is required for normal use. In a loaded or unloaded condition, the belt shall make constant contact with horizontal and wing rollers of the idlers in the scale area. Splices shall not cause any undue disturbance in scale operation (see N.3.).  
(Amended 1998, 2000 and 2001)

- (m) **Uniformity of Belt Loading and Flow.** - The conveyor loading mechanism shall be designed to provide uniform belt loading. The distance from the loading point to the scale shall allow for adequate settling time of the material on the belt before it is weighed. Feeding mechanisms shall have a positive closing or stopping action so that material leakage does not occur. Feeders shall provide an even flow over the scale through the full range of scale operation. Sufficient impact idlers shall be provided in the conveyor under each loading point to prevent deflection of the belt during the time material is being loaded.

- (n) **Belt Alignment.** - The belt shall not extend beyond the edge of the idler roller in any area of the conveyor.  
(Amended 1998)  
(Amended 2000)

**UR.2.3. Material Test.** - *A belt-conveyor scale shall be installed so that a material test can be conveniently conducted.*  
*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1981.]*

**UR.2.4. Belt Travel (Speed or Velocity).** - The belt travel sensor shall be so positioned that it accurately represents the travel of the belt over the scale for all flow rates between the maximum and minimum values. The belt travel sensor shall be so designed and installed that there is no slip.

### UR.3. Use Requirements.

**UR.3.1. Loading.** - The feed of material to the scale shall be controlled to assure that, during normal operation, the material flow is in accordance with manufacturer's recommendation for rated capacity.

**UR.3.2. Maintenance.** - Belt-conveyor scales and idlers shall be maintained and serviced in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and the following:

- (a) The scale and area surrounding the scale shall be kept clean of debris or other foreign material that can detrimentally affect the performance of the system.

- (b) There shall be provisions to ensure that weighed material does not adhere to the belt and return to the scale system area.  
(Added 2004)

- (c) Simulated load tests or material tests, and zero load tests shall be conducted at periodic intervals between official tests in order to provide reasonable assurance that the device is performing correctly.  
(Amended 2004)

The action to be taken as a result of the material tests or simulated load tests is as follows:  
(Amended 2000 and 2002)

- if the error is less than 0.25 percent, no adjustment is to be made;
- if the error is at least 0.25 percent but not more than 0.6 percent, adjustment may be made if the official with statutory authority is notified;  
(Amended 1991)
- if the error is greater than 0.6 percent but does not exceed 0.75 percent, adjustments shall be made only by a competent service person and the official with statutory authority shall be notified. After such an adjustment, if the results of a subsequent test require adjustment in the same direction, an official test shall be conducted;  
(Amended 1991)
- if the error is greater than 0.75 percent, an official test is required.  
(Amended 1987)

- (d) **Scale Alignment.** - Alignment checks shall be conducted in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendation when conveyor work is performed in the scale area. A material test is required after any realignment.  
(Amended 1986, 2000 and 2004)

- (e) **Simulated Load Equipment.** - Simulated load equipment shall be clean and properly maintained.  
(Amended 2004)

- (f) **Zero Load Reference Information.** - When zero load reference information is recorded for a delivery, the information must be based upon zero load tests performed as a minimum both immediately before and immediately after the totalized load.  
(Added 2002) (Amended 2004)

## 2.21. Belt-Conveyor Scale Systems

**UR.3.3. Retention of Maintenance, Test, and Analog or Digital Recorder Information.** - Records of calibration and maintenance, including conveyor alignment, analog or digital recorder, zero-load test, and material test data shall be maintained on site for at least the three concurrent years as a history of scale performance. Copies of any report as a result of a test or repair shall be mailed to the official with statutory authority as required. The current date and correction factor(s) for simulated load equipment shall be recorded and maintained in the scale cabinet.  
(Added 2002)

**UR.3.4. Diversion or Loss of Measured Product.** - There shall be no operation(s) or condition(s) of use that result in loss or diversion that adversely affects the quantity of measured product.  
(Added 2005)

**UR.4. Compliance.** - Prior to initial verification, the scale manufacturer or installer shall certify to the owner that the scale meets code requirements. Prior to initial verification and each subsequent verification, the scale owner or his agent shall notify the official with statutory authority in writing that the belt-conveyor scale system is in compliance with this specification and ready for material testing.  
(Amended 1991)

## Section 2.24. Automatic Weighing Systems

The status of Section 2.24. Automatic Weighing Systems was changed from “tentative” to “permanent” effective January 1, 2005.

The National Type Evaluation Program (NTEP) has been evaluating devices under the provisions of this code since it was added to Handbook 44 in 1995. In addition, a number of weights and measures jurisdictions as well as organizations such as the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) have implemented this code using the provisions of General Code Paragraph G-A.3. – Special and Unclassified Equipment. It is recommended that the jurisdictions that have not implemented this code work with industry to expedite the implementation of its use.

### A. Application

**A.1.** This code applies to devices used to automatically weigh pre-assembled discrete loads or single loads or loose materials in applications where automatic weighing systems<sup>1</sup> are used or employed in the determination of quantities, things, produce, or articles for distribution, for purchase, offered or submitted for sale, for distribution, purchase, or in computing any basic charge or payment for services rendered on the basis of weight, and in packaging plants subject to regulation by the USDA. Some weigh-labelers and checkweighers may also include a scale that is incorporated in a conveyor system that weighs packages in a static or non-automatic weighing mode.<sup>2</sup>

This includes:

- (a) Automatic weigh-labelers,
- (b) Combination automatic and non-automatic weigh-labelers,

<sup>1</sup> An automatic weighing system does not require the intervention of an operator during the weighing process. The necessity to give instructions to start a process or to release a load, or the function of the instrument (static, dynamic, setup, etc.) are not relevant in deciding the category of automatic or non-automatic instruments.  
(Added 2004)

<sup>2</sup> Prepackaging scales (and other commercial devices) used for putting up packages in advance of sale are acceptable for use in commerce if all appropriate provisions of Handbook 44 are met. Users of such devices must be alert to the legal requirements relating to the declaration of quantity on a package. Such requirements are to the effect that, on the average, the contents of the individual packages of a particular commodity comprising a lot, shipment, or delivery must contain at least the quantity declared on the label. The fact that a scale or other commercial device may overregister, but within established tolerances, and is approved for commercial service is not a legal justification for packages to contain, on the average, less than the labeled quantity.  
(Added 2004)

- (c) Automatic checkweighers
- (d) Combination automatic and non-automatic checkweighers, and
- (e) Automatic gravimetric filling machines that weigh discrete loads or single loads of loose materials and determine package and production lot compliance with net content representations.  
(Amended 2001, 2004 and 2005)

**A.2.** This code does not apply to:

- (a) Belt-Conveyor Scale Systems,
- (b) Railway Track Scales,
- (c) Monorail Scales,
- (d) Automatic Bulk-Weighing Systems, or
- (e) Devices that measure quantity on a time basis,
- (f) Controllers or other auxiliary devices except as they may affect the weighing performance,
- (g) Automatic gravimetric filling machines and other automatic weighing systems employed in determining the weight of a commodity in a plant or business with a separate quantity control program (e.g., a system of statistical process control) using suitable weighing instruments and measurement standards traceable to national standards to determine production lot compliance with net content representations.<sup>3</sup>  
(Added 2004)  
(Amended 2001 and 2004)

**A.3.** Also see General Code requirements.

<sup>3</sup> See NIST Handbook 130, Uniform Laws and Regulations in the area of Legal Metrology and Engine Fuel Quality, Interpretations and Guidelines paragraph 2.6.11. Good Quantity Control Practices.

## S. Specifications

### S.1. Design of Indicating and Recording Elements and of Recorded Representations.

#### S.1.1. Zero Indication.

- (a) A weigh-labeler shall be equipped with an indicating or recording element. Additionally, a weigh-labeler equipped with an indicating or recording element shall either indicate or record a zero-balance condition and an out-of-balance condition on both sides of zero. (Amended 2004)
- (b) An automatic checkweigher may be equipped with an indicating or recording element.
- (c) A zero-balance condition may be indicated by other than a continuous digital zero indication, provided that effective automatic means is provided to inhibit a weighing operation or to return to a continuous digital indication when the device is in an out-of-balance condition.

##### S.1.1.1. Digital Indicating Elements.

- (a) A digital zero indication shall represent a balance condition that is within  $\pm 1/2$  scale division.
- (b) A digital indicating device shall either automatically maintain a “center of zero” condition to  $\pm 1/4$  scale division or less, or have an auxiliary or supplemental “center-of-zero” indicator that defines a zero-balance condition to  $\pm 1/4$  scale division or less.

- (c) Verification of the accuracy of the center of zero indication to  $\pm 1/4$  scale division or less during automatic operation is not required on automatic checkweighers. (Amended 2004)

**S.1.2. Value of Division Units.** The value of a division “d” expressed in a unit of weight shall be equal to:

- (a) 1, 2, or 5; or
- (b) a decimal multiple or submultiple of 1, 2, or 5;

**S.1.2.1. Weight Units.** Except for postal scales, indicating and recording elements for shipping and postal applications, and scales used to print standard pack labels, a device shall indicate weight values using only a single unit of measure. (Amended 2004)

#### S.1.3. Provision for Sealing.

- (a) **Automatic Weighing Systems, Except Automatic Checkweighers.** A device shall be designed with provision(s) as specified in Table S.1.3. “Categories of Device and Methods of Sealing,” for applying a security seal that must be broken, or for using other approved means of providing security (e.g., data change audit trail available at the time of inspection), before any change that detrimentally affects the metrological integrity of the device can be made to any electronic mechanism.

Table S.1.3. Categories of Device and Methods of Sealing	
Categories of Device	Method of Sealing
Category 1: No remote configuration capability.	Seal by physical seal or two event counters: one for calibration parameters and one for configuration parameters.
Category 2: Remote configuration capability, but access is controlled by physical hardware.  The device shall clearly indicate that it is in the remote configuration mode and record such message if capable of printing in this mode.	The hardware enabling access for remote communication must be at the device and sealed using a physical seal or two event counters: one for calibration parameters and one for configuration parameters.
Category 3: Remote configuration capability access may be unlimited or controlled through a software switch (e.g., password).	An event logger is required in the device; it must include an event counter (000 to 999), the parameter ID, the date and time of the change, and the new value of the parameter. A printed copy of the information must be available through the device or through another on-site device. The event logger shall have a capacity to retain records equal to ten times the number of sealable parameters in the device, but not more than 1000 records are required. (Note: Does not require 1000 changes to be stored for each parameter.)



**T.3. Tolerance Values.****T.3.1. Tolerance Values - Class III Weigh-Labeler.**  
(See T.3.2. for Class IIIS Weigh-Labelers.)

**T.3.1.1. Non-Automatic Tests.** Tolerance values shall be as specified in Table T.3., Class III - Tolerances in Divisions.  
(Amended 2004)

**T.3.1.2. Automatic Tests.** Acceptance tolerance values shall be the same as maintenance tolerance values specified in Table T.3., Class III - Tolerances in Divisions.  
(Amended 2004)

<b>Table T.3. Class III – Tolerance in Divisions (e)</b>		
Test Load in Divisions	Tolerance in Divisions	
Class III	Acceptance	Maintenance
0 – 500	$\pm 0.5$	$\pm 1$
201 – 2000	$\pm 1$	$\pm 2$
2001 – 4000	$\pm 1.5$	$\pm 3$
4001+	$\pm 2.5$	$\pm 5$

(Amended 2004)

**T.3.2. Tolerance Values - Class IIIS Weigh-Labelers in Package Shipping Applications.**  
(Added 1997)

**T.3.2.1. Non-Automatic Tests.** - Tolerance values shall be as specified in Table T.3.2.1. Non-Automatic Tolerances for Class IIIS Weigh-Labelers.  
(Amended 2004)

<b>Table T.3.2.1. Non-Automatic Tolerances for Class IIIS Weigh-Labelers</b>		
Test Load in Divisions	Tolerance in Divisions	
Class IIIS	Acceptance	Maintenance
0 – 50	$\pm 0.5$	$\pm 1$
51 – 200	$\pm 1$	$\pm 2$
201 – 1000	$\pm 1.5$	$\pm 3$

(Added 1997) (Amended 2004)

**T.3.2.2. Automatic Tests.** - Tolerance values specified in Table T.3.2.2. Dynamic Tolerances for Class IIIS Weigh-Labelers shall be applied.  
(Amended 2004)

**Table T.3.2.2. Automatic Tolerances for Class IIIS Weigh-Labelers**

Test Load in Divisions	Tolerance in Divisions	
Class IIIS	Acceptance	Maintenance
0 - 50	$\pm 1.5$	$\pm 2$
51 - 200	$\pm 2$	$\pm 3$
201 - 1000	$\pm 2.5$	$\pm 4$

(Added 1997) (Amended 2004)

**T.3.3. Tolerance Values - Automatic Checkweighers.****T.3.3.1. Laboratory Tests for Automatic Checkweighers.**

**T.3.3.1.1. Non-Automatic Tests.** The acceptance tolerance values specified in Table T.3., Class III - Tolerance in Divisions, shall be applied.  
(Amended 2004)

**T.3.3.1.2. Automatic Tests.**

- (a) The systematic error for each test run must be within the acceptance tolerances specified in Table T.3. Class III – Tolerance in Division (e) for the test loads as specified in Table N.1.5.  
(Amended 2004 and 2005)
- (b) The standard deviation of the results shall not exceed one-ninth (1/9) of the Maximum Allowable Variation (MAV) for specific package weights (which means that 3 standard deviations cannot exceed one-third (1/3) of the MAV value) as required in the latest edition of NIST Handbook 133. This value does not change regardless of whether acceptance or maintenance tolerances are being applied to the device under test.  
(Amended 2004 and 2005)
- (i) For U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) inspected meat and poultry products packaged at a plant subject to inspection by the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service, use Handbook 133 Table 2-9, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Meat and Poultry, Groups and Lower Limits for Individual Packages, or

## 2.24. Automatic Weighing Systems

- (ii) For all other packages with a labeled net quantity in terms of weight use Handbook 133 Table 2-5, Maximum Allowable Variations for Packages Labeled by Weight.

- (iii) For all packages with a labeled net quantity in terms of liquid or dry volume use Handbook 133 Table 2-6, Maximum Allowable Variations for Packages Labeled by Liquid or Dry Volume.

(Amended 2004)

### T.3.3.2. Field Tests for Automatic Checkweighers.

**T.3.3.2.1. Non-Automatic Test.** - The tolerance values shall be as specified in Table T.3., Class III - Tolerance in Divisions.  
(Amended 2004 and 2005)

#### T.3.3.2.2. Automatic Test.

- (a) The systematic error requirement is not applied in a field test.

- (b) The standard deviation of the test results shall not exceed one-ninth (1/9) of the Maximum Allowable Variation (MAV) for specific package weights (which means 3 standard deviations cannot exceed one-third (1/3) of the MAV value) as required in the latest Edition of NIST Handbook 133. This value does not change regardless of whether acceptance or maintenance tolerances are being applied to the device under test.

(Amended 2004 and 2005)

- (i) For U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) inspected meat and poultry products packaged at a plant subject to inspection by the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service, use Handbook 133 Table 2-9, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Meat and Poultry, Groups and Lower Limits for Individual Packages, or

- (ii) For all other packages with a labeled net quantity in terms of weight use Handbook 133 Table 2-5, Maximum Allowable Variations for Packages Labeled by Weight.

- (iii) For all packages with a labeled net quantity in terms of liquid or dry volume use Handbook 133 Table 2-6, Maximum Allowable Variations for Packages Labeled by Liquid or Dry Volume.

(Amended 2004)

**T.4. Agreement of Indications.** In the case of a weighing system equipped with more than one indicating element or indicating element and recording element combination, the difference in the weight value indications of any load shall not be greater than the absolute value of the applicable tolerance for that load, and shall be within tolerance limits.

**T.5. Repeatability.** The results obtained from several weighings of the same load under reasonably constant test conditions shall agree within the absolute value of the maintenance tolerance for that load, and shall be within applicable tolerances.

(Amended 2004)

**T.6. Discrimination.** A test load equivalent to 1.4 d shall cause a change in the indicated or recorded value of at least 2.0 d. This requires the zone of uncertainty to be not greater than 0.3 d (see N.2.1.4.).

(Amended 2004)

**T.7. Influence Factors.** The following factors are applicable to tests conducted under controlled conditions only.

**T.7.1. Temperature.** Devices shall satisfy the tolerance requirements under the following temperature conditions:

**T.7.1.1.** If not specified in the operating instructions or if not marked on the device, the temperature limits shall be: -10 °C to 40 °C (14 °F to 104 °F)

**T.7.1.2.** If temperature limits are specified for the device, the range shall be at least 30 °C (54 °F).

**T.7.1.3. Temperature Effect on Zero-Load Balance.** The zero-load indication shall not vary by more than one division per 5 °C (9 °F) change in temperature.

**T.7.1.4. Operating Temperature.** The indicating or recording element shall not display nor record any usable values until the operating temperature necessary for accurate weighing and a stable zero balance condition have been attained.

## Sec. 3.30. Liquid-Measuring Devices

### A. Application

**A.1.** - This code applies to:

- (a) devices used for the measurement of liquids, including liquid fuels and lubricants, and
- (b) wholesale devices used for the measurement and delivery of agri-chemical liquids such as fertilizers, feeds, herbicides, pesticides, insecticides, fungicides, and defoliant. (Added 1985)

**A.2.** - This code does not apply to:

- (a) meters mounted on vehicle tanks (see Sec. 3.31. Code for Vehicle-Tank Meters),
- (b) devices used for dispensing liquefied petroleum gases (see Sec. 3.32. Code for Liquefied Petroleum Gas and Anhydrous Ammonia Liquid-Measuring Devices),
- (c) devices used for dispensing other liquids that do not remain in a liquid state at atmospheric pressures and temperatures,
- (d) water meters, or
- (e) devices used solely for dispensing a product in connection with operations in which the amount dispensed does not affect customer charges,
- (f) mass flow meters (see Sec. 3.37. Code for Mass Flow Meters). (Added 1994)

**A.3.** - In addition to the requirements of this code, liquid-measuring devices shall meet the requirements of Section 1.10. General Code.

### S. Specifications

#### S.1. Indicating and Recording Elements and Recorded Representations.

**S.1.1. General.** - A liquid-measuring device:

- (a) shall be equipped with a primary indicating element, and
- (b) may be equipped with a primary recording element.

**S.1.2. Units.** - A liquid-measuring device shall indicate, and record if the device is equipped to record, its deliveries in liters, gallons, quarts, pints, or binary-submultiples or decimal subdivisions of the liter or gallon.

(Amended 1987, 1994)

**S.1.2.1. Retail Motor-Fuel Devices.** - Deliveries shall be indicated and recorded, if the device is equipped to record, in liters or gallons and decimal subdivisions or fractional equivalents thereof. (Added 1979)

#### S.1.2.2. Agri-Chemical Liquid Devices.

**S.1.2.2.1. Liquid Measure.** - Deliveries shall be indicated and recorded in liters or gallons and decimal subdivisions or fractional equivalents thereof.

**S.1.2.3. Value of Smallest Unit.** - The value of the smallest unit of indicated delivery, and recorded delivery if the device is equipped to record, shall not exceed the equivalent of:

- (a) 0.5 L (1 pt) on retail devices;
- (b) 5 L (1 gal) on wholesale devices.

This requirement does not apply to manually operated devices equipped with stops or stroke-limiting means.

(Amended 1983 and 1986)

**S.1.3. Advancement of Indicating and Recording Elements.** - It shall not be possible to advance primary indicating and recording elements except by the mechanical operation of the device. Clearing a device by advancing its elements to zero is permitted, but only if:

- (a) once started, the advancement movement cannot be stopped until zero is reached, and
- (b) in the case of indicating elements only, such elements are automatically obscured until the elements reach the correct zero position.

#### S.1.4. Graduations.

**S.1.4.1. Length.** - Graduations shall be varied in length so that they may be conveniently read.

**S.1.4.2. Width.** - In a series of graduations, the width of:

### 3.30. Liquid-Measuring Devices

- (a) every graduation shall be at least 0.2 mm (0.008 in) but not greater than the minimum clear interval between graduations, and
- (b) main graduations shall be not more than 50 percent greater than the width of subordinate graduations.

**S.1.4.3. Clear Interval Between Graduations.** - The clear interval between graduations shall be not less than 1.0 mm (0.04 in). If the graduations are not parallel, the measurement shall be made:

- (a) along the line of movement of the tip of the index of the indicator as it passes over the graduations, or
- (b) if the indicator extends over the entire length of the graduations, at the point of widest separation of the graduations.

#### S.1.5. Indicators.

**S.1.5.1. Symmetry.** - The portion of the index of an indicator associated with the graduations shall be symmetrical with respect to the graduations.

#### S.1.5.2. Length.

- (a) If the indicator and the graduations are in different planes, the index of the indicator shall extend to each graduation with which it is to be used.
- (b) If the indicator is in the same plane as the graduations, the distance between the index of the indicator and the ends of the graduations, measured along the line of the graduations, shall be not more than 1.0 mm (0.04 in).

#### S.1.5.3. Width.

- (a) *The index of an indicator shall not be wider than the width of the narrowest graduation.*  
[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2002]  
(Amended 2000)
- (b) If the index of an indicator extends over the entire length of a graduation, it shall be of uniform width throughout the portion that coincides with the graduation.

**S.1.5.4. Clearance.** - If the indicator and the graduations are in different planes, the clearance between the index of an indicator and the plane of the graduations shall be no greater than 1.5 mm (0.06 in).

**S.1.5.5. Parallax.** - Parallax effects shall be reduced to the practical minimum.

#### S.1.6. Operating Requirements, Retail Devices (Except Slow Flow Meters).

**S.1.6.1. Indication of Delivery.** - The device shall automatically show on its face the initial zero condition and the quantity delivered (up to the nominal capacity). However, the following requirements shall apply:

For electronic devices manufactured prior to January 1, 2006, the first 0.03 L (or 0.009 gal) of a delivery and its associated total sales price need not be indicated.

*For electronic devices manufactured on or after January 1, 2006, the measurement, indication of delivered quantity, and the indication of total sales price shall be inhibited until the fueling position reaches conditions necessary to ensure that the delivery starts at zero.*

[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2006]

(Added 2005)

(Amended 1982 and 2005)

#### S.1.6.2. Provisions for Power Loss.

**S.1.6.2.1. Transaction Information.** - *In the event of a power loss, the information needed to complete any transaction in progress at the time of the power loss (such as the quantity and unit price, or sales price) shall be determinable for at least 15 minutes at the dispenser or at the console if the console is accessible to the customer.*

[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1983.]

**S.1.6.2.2. User Information.** - *The device memory shall retain information on the quantity of fuel dispensed and the sales price totals during power loss.*

[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1983.]

#### S.1.6.3. Return to Zero.

- (a) The primary indicating elements, and primary recording elements if the device is equipped to record, shall be readily returnable to a definite zero indication. However, a key-lock operated or other self-operated device may be equipped with cumulative indicating or recording elements, provided that it is also equipped with a zero-return indicating element.
- (b) It shall not be possible to return primary indicating elements, or primary recording elements beyond the correct zero position.  
(Amended 1972)

**S.2.1.1. Vapor Elimination on Loading Rack Metering Systems.**

- (a) A loading rack metering system shall be equipped with a vapor or air eliminator or other automatic means to prevent the passage of vapor and air through the meter unless the system is designed or operationally controlled by a method, approved by the weights and measures jurisdiction having control over the device, such that air and/or vapor cannot enter the system.
- (b) Vent lines from the air or vapor eliminator (if present) shall be made of metal tubing or other rigid material.
- (Added 1994)

**S.2.2. Provision for Sealing.** - Adequate provision shall be made for an approved means of security (e.g., data change audit trail) or for physically applying a security seal in such a manner that requires the security seal to be broken before an adjustment can be made of:

- (a) any measurement element, or
- (b) any adjustable element for controlling delivery rate when such rate tends to affect the accuracy of deliveries.

When applicable, the adjusting mechanism shall be readily accessible for purposes of affixing a security seal.

*Audit trails shall use the format set forth in Table S.2.2.*

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1995.]*

*(Amended 1991, 1993, 1995 and 2003)*

**Table S.2.2. Categories of Device and Methods of Sealing**

<i>Category of Device</i>	<i>Method of Sealing</i>
<i>Category 1: No remote configuration capability.</i>	<i>Seal by physical seal or two event counters: one for calibration parameters and one for configuration parameters.</i>
<p><i>[Category 2 applies only to devices manufactured prior to January 1, 2005. Devices with remote configuration capability manufactured after that date must meet the sealing requirements outlined in Category 3. Devices without remote configuration capability manufactured after that date must meet the minimum criteria outlined in Category 1.]</i></p> <p><i>Category 2: Remote configuration capability, but access is controlled by physical hardware.</i></p> <p><i>The device shall clearly indicate that it is in the remote configuration mode and record such message if capable of printing in this mode or shall not operate while in this mode.</i></p>	<p><i>[The hardware enabling access for remote communication must be on-site. The hardware must be sealed using a physical seal or an event counter for calibration parameters and an event counter for configuration parameters. The event counters may be located either at the individual measuring device or at the system controller; however, an adequate number of counters must be provided to monitor the calibration and configuration parameters of the individual devices at a location. If the counters are located in the system controller rather than at the individual device, means must be provided to generate a hard copy of the information through an on-site device.]*</i></p> <p><i>[*Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1996]</i></p>
<p><i>Category 3: Remote configuration capability access may be unlimited or controlled through a software switch (e.g., password).</i></p> <p><i>The device shall clearly indicate that it is in the remote configuration mode and record such message if capable of printing in this mode or shall not operate while in this mode.</i></p> <p><i>[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2001]</i></p> <p><i>Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2005, all devices with remote configuration capability must comply with the sealing requirement of Category 3.</i></p>	<p><i>An event logger is required in the device; it must include an event counter (000 to 999), the parameter ID, the date and time of the change, and the new value of the parameter. A printed copy of the information must be available through the device or through another on-site device. The event logger shall have a capacity to retain records equal to ten times the number of sealable parameters in the device, but not more than 1000 records are required. (Note: Does not require 1000 changes to be stored for each parameter.)</i></p>

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1995.] (Table added 1993) (Amended 1995, 1998, 1999 and 2005)*

### 3.30. Liquid-Measuring Devices

**S.2.2.1. Multiple Measuring Elements With a Single Provision for Sealing.** – *A change to the adjustment of any measuring element shall be individually identified.*

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2005]*

**Note:** Examples of acceptable identification of a change to the adjustment of a measuring element include, but are not limited to:

- (1) *a broken, missing, or replaced physical seal on an individual measuring element;*
- (2) *a change in a calibration factor for each measuring element;*
- (3) *a display of the date or the number of days since the last calibration event for each measuring element; or*
- (4) *a counter indicating the number of calibration events per measuring element*

(Added 2004)

**S.2.3. Directional Flow Valves.** - Valves intended to prevent reversal of flow shall be automatic in operation.

#### **S.2.4. Stop Mechanism.**

**S.2.4.1. Indication.** - The delivery for which the device is set shall be conspicuously indicated.

(Amended 1983)

**S.2.4.2. Stroke Limiting Elements.** - Stops or other stroke limiting elements subject to direct pressure or impact shall be:

- (a) made secure by positive, nonfrictional engagement of these elements; and
- (b) adjustable to provide for deliveries within tolerances.

(Amended 1983)

**S.2.4.3. Setting.** - If two or more stops or other elements may be selectively brought into operation to permit predetermined quantities of deliveries,

- (a) the position for the proper setting of each such element shall be accurately defined; and
- (b) any inadvertent displacement from the proper setting shall be obstructed.

(Amended 1983)

**S.2.5. Zero-Set-Back Interlock, Retail Motor-Fuel Devices.** - A device shall be constructed so that:

- (a) after a delivery cycle has been completed by moving the starting lever to any position that shuts off the device, an automatic interlock prevents a subsequent delivery until the indicating elements, and recording elements if the device is equipped and activated to record, have been returned to their zero positions;
- (b) the discharge nozzle cannot be returned to its designed hanging position (that is, any position where the tip of the nozzle is placed in its designed receptacle and the lock can be inserted) until the starting lever is in its designed shut-off position and the zero-set-back interlock has been engaged; and
- (c) in a system with more than one dispenser supplied by a single pump, an effective automatic control valve in each dispenser prevents product from being delivered until the indicating elements on that dispenser are in a correct zero position.

(Amended 1981 and 1985)

**S.2.6. Temperature Determination and Wholesale Devices.** - *For test purposes, means shall be provided to determine the temperature of the liquid either:*

(a) *in the liquid chamber of the meter, or*

(b) *immediately adjacent to the meter in the meter inlet or discharge line.*

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1985.]*

(Added 1984) (Amended 1986)

**S.2.7. Wholesale Devices Equipped with Automatic Temperature Compensators.**

#### **S.2.7.1. Automatic Temperature Compensation.**

A device may be equipped with an automatic means for adjusting the indication and registration of the measured volume of product to the volume at 15°C (60°F).

**S.2.7.2. Provision for Deactivating.** - On a device equipped with an automatic temperature-compensating mechanism that will indicate or record only in terms of gallons compensated to 15°C (60°F), provision shall be made for deactivating the automatic temperature-compensating mechanism so that the meter can indicate, and record if it is equipped to record, in terms of the uncompensated volume.

(Amended 1972)

**N.3.2. Slow Flow Meters.** - Test drafts shall be equal to at least four times the minimum volume that can be measured and indicated through either a visible indication or an audible signal.

**N.3.3. Lubricant Devices.** - Test drafts shall be 1 L (1 qt). Additional test drafts may include 0.5 L (1 pt), 4 L (4 qt), and 6 L (6 qt).

**N.3.4. Other Retail Devices.** - On devices with a designed maximum discharge rate of:

- (a) less than 80 L (20 gal) per minute, tests shall include drafts of one or more amounts, including a draft of at least 19 liters (5 gal).
- (b) 80 L (20 gal) per minute or greater, tests shall include drafts of one or more amounts, including a draft of at least the amount delivered by the device in one minute at the maximum flow rate of the installation.  
(Amended 1984)

**N.3.5. Wholesale Devices.** - The delivered quantity should be equal to at least the amount delivered by the device in one minute at its maximum discharge rate, and shall in no case be less than 200 L (50 gal).  
(Amended 1987 and 1996)

#### **N.4. Testing Procedures.**

**N.4.1. Normal Tests.** - The “normal” test of a device shall be made at the maximum discharge flow rate developed under the conditions of installation. Any additional tests conducted at flow rates down to and including one-half of the sum of the maximum discharge flow rate and the rated minimum discharge flow rate shall be considered normal tests.  
(Amended 1991)

##### **N.4.1.1. Wholesale Devices Equipped with Automatic Temperature-Compensating Systems.**

**[NOT ADOPTED]**

**N.4.1.2. Repeatability Tests.** - Tests for repeatability should include a minimum of three consecutive test drafts of approximately the same size and be conducted under controlled conditions where variations in factors, such as temperature, pressure, and flow rate are reduced to the extent that they will not affect the results obtained.  
(Added 2001)

#### **4002.8. Liquid-Measuring Devices. (3.30.)**

**(a) Wholesale Devices Equipped With Automatic Temperature Compensating Systems.** On wholesale devices equipped with automatic temperature compensating systems, normal tests:

- (1) shall be conducted with the temperature compensating system connected and operating by comparing the compensated volume indicated or recorded to the actual delivered volume corrected to 60°F, and
- (2) may be conducted with the temperature compensating system deactivated by comparing the uncompensated volume indicated or recorded to the actual delivered volume.

The first test shall be performed with the automatic temperature compensating system operating in the “as found” condition.

On devices that indicate or record both the compensated and uncompensated volume for each delivery, the tests in (1) and (2) may be performed as a single test.

**N.4.2. Special Tests.** - “Special” tests shall be made to develop the operating characteristics of a device and any special elements and accessories attached to or associated with the device. Any test except as set forth in N.4.1. shall be considered a special test.  
(Amended 2005)

**N.4.2.1. Slow-Flow Meters.** - A “special” test shall be made at a flow rate:

- (a) not larger than twice the actual minimum flow rate, and
- (b) not smaller than the actual minimum flow rate of the installation.

##### **N.4.2.2. Retail Motor-Fuel Devices.**

- (a) Devices without a marked minimum flow-rate shall have a “special” test performed at the slower of the following rates:

### 3.30. Liquid-Measuring Devices

- (1) 19 L (5 gal) per minute, or
- (2) the minimum discharge rate at which the device will deliver when equipped with an automatic discharge nozzle set at its slowest setting.

- (b) Devices with a marked minimum flow-rate shall have a "special" test performed at or near the marked minimum flow rate.

(Added 1984) (Amended 2005)

**N.4.2.3. Other Retail Devices.** - "Special" tests of other retail devices shall be made at the slower of the following rates:

- (a) 50 percent of the maximum discharge rate developed under the conditions of installation, or
- (b) the minimum discharge rate marked on the device.

**N.4.2.4. Wholesale Devices.** - "Special" tests shall be made to develop the operating characteristics of a measuring system and any special associated or attached elements and accessories. "Special" tests shall include a test at the slower of the following rates:

- (a) 20 percent of the marked maximum discharge rate; or
- (b) the minimum discharge rate marked on the device.

#### N.4.3. Money-Value Computation Tests.

**N.4.3.1. Laboratory Tests.** - When testing the device in the laboratory:

- (a) compliance with paragraph S.1.6.5., Money Value Computations, shall be determined by using the cone gear as a reference for the total quantity delivered;
- (b) the indicated quantity shall agree with the cone gear representation with the index of the indicator within the width of the graduation; and
- (c) the maximum allowable variation of the indicated sales price shall be as shown in Table 1.  
(Amended 1984)

**N.4.3.2. Field Tests.** - In the conduct of field tests to determine compliance with paragraph S.1.6.5., the maximum allowable variation in the indicated sales price shall be as shown in Table 1.  
(Added 1982; Amended 1984)

**N.5. Temperature Correction on Wholesale Devices.** - Corrections shall be made for any changes in volume resulting from the differences in liquid temperatures between time of passage through the meter and time of volumetric determination in the prover. When adjustments are necessary, appropriate petroleum measurement tables should be used.  
(Amended 1974)

### T. Tolerances

**T.1. Application to Underregistration and to Over-registration.** The tolerances hereinafter prescribed shall be applied to errors of underregistration and errors of over-registration, whether or not a device is equipped with an automatic temperature compensator.

**T.2. Tolerance Values.** - Maintenance, Acceptance, and Special Test Tolerances shall be as shown in Table T.2.  
(Amended 2002)

**T.3. Repeatability.** - When multiple tests are conducted at approximately the same flow rate and draft size, the range of the test results for the flow rate shall not exceed 40 percent of the absolute value of the maintenance tolerance and the results of each test shall be within the applicable tolerance. This tolerance does not apply to the test of the automatic temperature compensating system. See also N.4.1.2.  
(Added 1992) (Amended 2001 and 2002)

**T.4. Automatic Temperature Compensating Systems.** - *The difference between the meter error (expressed as a percentage) for results determined with and without the automatic temperature compensating system activated shall not exceed:*

- (a) *0.2 percent for mechanical automatic temperature compensating systems; and*
- (b) *0.1 percent for electronic automatic temperature compensating systems.*

*The delivered quantities for each test shall be approximately the same size. The results of each test shall be within the applicable acceptance or maintenance tolerance.  
[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1988.]*



(b) The following information shall be conspicuously displayed or posted on each side of a retail dispenser used in direct sale:

- (1) the identity of the product in descriptive commercial terms, and
- (2) the identity of the grade, brand, blend, or mixture that a multi-product dispenser is set to deliver.  
(Amended 1972, 1983, 1987, 1989, 1992, and 1993)

**UR.3.3. Computing Device.** - Any computing device used in an application where a product or grade is offered for sale at one or more unit prices shall be used only for sales for which the device computes and displays the sales price for the selected transaction.

[Became Retroactive 1999]

(Added 1989) (Amended 1992 and 2000)

The following exceptions apply:

- (1) Fleet sales and other price contract sales are exempt from this requirement.
- (2) A truck stop dispenser used exclusively for refueling trucks is exempt from this requirement provided that:
  - (a) all purchases of fuel are accompanied by a printed receipt of the transaction containing the applicable price per gallon, the total gallons delivered, and the total price of the sale.  
(Added 1993)
  - (b) unless a dispenser complies with S.1.6.4.1. (Display of Unit Price), the price posted on the dispenser and the price at which the dispenser is set to compute shall be the highest price for any transaction which may be conducted.  
(Added 1993)

(Amended 2005)

**UR.3.4. Printed Ticket.** - The total price, the total volume of the delivery, and the price per gallon or liter shall be shown, either printed or in clear hand script, on any printed ticket issued by a device and containing any one of these values.

(Amended 2001)

**UR.3.5. Steps After Dispensing.** - After delivery to a customer from a retail motor-fuel device:

- (a) the starting lever shall be returned to its shutoff position and the zero-set-back interlock engaged; and

- (b) the discharge nozzle shall be returned to its designed hanging position unless the primary indicating elements, and recording elements if the device is equipped and activated to record, have been returned to a definite zero indication.

### UR.3.6. Temperature Compensation, Wholesale.

#### UR.3.6.1. Automatic.

**UR.3.6.1.1. When to be Used.** - If a device is equipped with a mechanical automatic temperature compensator, it shall be connected, operable, and in use at all times. An electronic or mechanical automatic temperature compensating system may not be removed, nor may a compensated device be replaced with an uncompensated device, without the written approval of the responsible weights and measures jurisdiction.

[Note: This requirement does not specify the method of sale for product measured through a meter.]

(Amended 1989)

#### UR.3.6.1.2. Invoices.

- (a) A written invoice based on a reading of a device that is equipped with an automatic temperature compensator shall show that the volume delivered has been adjusted to the volume at 15 °C (60 °F).
- (b) The invoice issued from an electronic wholesale device equipped with an automatic temperature compensating system shall also indicate: (1) the API gravity, specific gravity or coefficient of expansion for the product; (2) product temperature; and (3) gross reading.

(Amended 1987)

#### UR.3.6.2. Nonautomatic.

**UR.3.6.2.1. Temperature Determination.** - If the volume of the product delivered is adjusted to the volume at 15 °C (60 °F), the product temperature shall be taken during the delivery in:

- (a) the liquid chamber of the meter, or
- (b) the meter inlet or discharge line adjacent to the meter, or
- (c) the compartment of the receiving vehicle at the time it is loaded.

### **3.30. Liquid-Measuring Devices**

**UR.3.6.2.2. Invoices.** - The accompanying invoice shall indicate that the volume of the product has been adjusted for temperature variations to a volume at 15 °C (60 °F) and shall also state the product temperature used in making the adjustment.

**UR.3.6.3. Period of Use.** – When fuel is bought or sold on an automatic or nonautomatic temperature-compensated basis, it shall be bought or sold using this method over at least a consecutive 12-month period, unless otherwise agreed to by both the buyer and seller in writing.

(Added 2003)

## Sec. 3.31. Vehicle-Tank Meters

### A. Application

**A.1.** - This code applies to meters mounted on vehicle tanks including those used for the measurement and delivery of petroleum products or agri-chemical liquids such as fertilizers, feeds, pesticides, defoliants, and bulk deliveries of water. (Amended 1985 and 1995)

**A.2.** - This code does not apply to the following devices:

- (a) Devices used for dispensing liquefied petroleum gases (for which see Sec. 3.32; Code for Liquefied Petroleum Gas and Anhydrous Ammonia Liquid-Measuring Devices), or other liquids that do not remain in a liquid state at atmospheric pressures and temperatures.
- (b) Devices used solely for dispensing a product in connection with operations in which the amount dispensed does not affect customer charges.
- (c) Vehicle tanks used as measures (for which see Sec. 4.40; Code for Vehicle Tanks Used as Measures).
- (d) Mass flow meters (see Sec. 3.37. Code for Mass Flow Meters). (Added 1994)

**A.3.** - See also Sec. 1.10; General Code requirements.

### S. Specifications

#### S.1. Design of Indicating and Recording Elements and of Recorded Representations.

##### S.1.1. Primary Elements.

**S.1.1.1. General.** - A meter shall be equipped with a primary indicating element and may also be equipped with a primary recording element.

[**Note:** Except for systems used solely for the sale of aviation fuel into aircraft and for aircraft-related operations, vehicle-tank meters shall be equipped with a primary recording element as required by paragraph UR.2.2.1.] (Amended 1993 and 2000)

##### S.1.1.2. Units.

- (a) A meter shall indicate, and record if the meter is equipped to record, its deliveries in terms of liters (gallons). Fractional parts of the liter (gallon) shall be in terms of either decimal or binary subdivisions.

- (b) When it is an industry practice to purchase and sell milk by weight based upon 1.03 kg/L (8.6 lb/gal), the primary indicating element may indicate in kilograms (pounds) and decimal kilograms (pounds). The weight value division shall be a decimal multiple or submultiple of 1, 2, or 5. (See S.5.5.)

**S.1.1.3. Value of Smallest Unit.** - The value of the smallest unit of indicated delivery, and recorded delivery if the meter is equipped to record, shall not exceed the equivalent of:

- (a) 0.5 L (0.1 gal) or 0.5 kg (1 lb) on milk-metering systems
- (b) 0.5 L (0.1 gal) on meters with a rated maximum flow rate of 500 L/min (100 gal/min) or less used for retail deliveries of liquid fuel, or
- (c) 5 L (1 gal) on other meters. (Amended 1989 and 1994)

**S.1.1.4. Advancement of Indicating and Recording Elements.** - Primary indicating and recording elements shall be susceptible to advancement only by the mechanical operation of the meter. However, a meter may be cleared by advancing its elements to zero, but only if:

- (a) the advancing movement, once started, cannot be stopped until zero is reached, or
- (b) in the case of indicating elements only, such elements are automatically obscured until the elements reach the correct zero position.

**S.1.1.5. Return to Zero.** - Primary indicating elements shall be readily returnable to a definite zero indication. Means shall be provided to prevent the return of primary indicating elements, and of primary recording elements if these are returnable to zero, beyond their correct zero position.

##### S.1.2. Graduations.

**S.1.2.1. Length.** - Graduations shall be so varied in length that they may be conveniently read.

**S.1.2.2. Width.** - In any series of graduations, the width of a graduation shall in no case be greater than the width of the minimum clear interval between graduations, and the width of main graduations shall be not more than 50 percent greater than the width of subordinate graduations. Graduations shall in no case be less than 0.2 mm (0.008 in) wide.

### 3.31. Vehicle-Tank Meters

**S.1.2.3. Clear Interval Between Graduations.** - The clear interval shall be not less than 0.25 mm (0.10 in). If the graduations are not parallel, the measurement shall be made:

- (a) along the line of relative movement between the graduations at the end of the indicator, or
  - (b) if the indicator is continuous, at the point of widest separation of the graduations.
- (Amended 1986)

#### S.1.3. Indicators.

**S.1.3.1. Symmetry.** - The index of an indicator shall be symmetrical with respect to the graduations at least throughout that portion of its length associated with the graduations.

**S.1.3.2. Length.** - The index of an indicator shall reach to the finest graduations with which it is used, unless the indicator and the graduations are in the same plane, in which case the distance between the end of the indicator and the ends of the graduations, measured along the line of the graduations, shall be not more than 1.0 mm (0.04 in).

**S.1.3.3. Width.** - The width of the index of an indicator in relation to the series of graduations with which it is used shall be not greater than:

- (a) *the width of the narrowest graduation\*, and*  
[\*Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2002]  
(Amended 2001)
- (b) the width of the minimum clear interval between graduations.

When the index of an indicator extends along the entire length of a graduation, that portion of the index of the indicator that may be brought into coincidence with the graduation shall be of the same width throughout the length of the index that coincides with the graduation.

**S.1.3.4. Clearance.** - The clearance between the index of an indicator and the graduations shall in no case be more than 1.5 mm (0.06 in).

**S.1.3.5. Parallax.** - Parallax effects shall be reduced to the practicable minimum.

**S.1.3.6. Travel of Indicator.** - If the most sensitive element of the primary indicating element utilizes an indicator and graduations, the relative movement of these parts corresponding to the smallest indicated value shall not be less than 5 mm (0.20 in).

#### S.1.4. Computing-Type Device.

**S.1.4.1. Display of Unit Price.** - In a device of the computing type, means shall be provided for displaying, in a manner clear to the operator and an observer, the unit price at which the device is set to compute. The unit price is not required to be displayed continuously.  
(Amended 1983 and 2005)

**S.1.4.2. Printed Ticket.** - If a computing-type device issues a printed ticket which displays the total computed price, the ticket shall also have printed clearly thereon the total quantity of the delivery, the appropriate fraction of the quantity, and the price per unit of quantity.  
(Amended 1989)

**S.1.4.3. Money-Value Computations.** - Money-value computations shall be of the full-computing type in which the money value at a single unit price, or at each of a series of unit prices, shall be computed for every delivery within either the range of measurement of the device or the range of the computing elements, whichever is less. Value graduations shall be supplied and shall be accurately positioned. The value of each graduated interval shall be 1 cent. On electronic devices with digital indications, the total price may be computed on the basis of the quantity indicated when the value of the smallest division indicated is equal to or less than 0.2 L (0.1 gal) or 0.2 kg (1 lb).  
(Amended 1979, 1989)

**S.1.4.4. Money Values, Mathematical Agreement.** - Any digital money-value indication and any recorded money value on a computing-type device shall be in mathematical agreement with its associated quantity indication or representation to within 1 cent of money value.

#### S.2. Design of Measuring Elements.

**S.2.1. Vapor Elimination.** - A metering system shall be equipped with an effective vapor or air eliminator or other automatic means to prevent the passage of vapor and air through the meter. Vent lines from the air or vapor eliminator shall be made of metal tubing or some other suitable rigid material.  
(Amended 1993)

**S.2.2. Provision for Sealing.** - Except on devices for metering milk, adequate provision shall be made for applying security seals in such a manner that no adjustment may be made of:

- (a) any measurement element, and
- (b) any adjustable element for controlling delivery rate when such rate tends to affect the accuracy of deliveries.

**S.2.2.1. Milk-Metering Systems.** - Adequate provision shall be made for applying security seals to the adjustment mechanism and the register. The adjusting mechanism shall be readily accessible for purposes of affixing a security seal.

**S.2.3. Directional Flow Valves.** - Valves intended to prevent reversal of flow shall be automatic in operation. However, on equipment used exclusively for fueling aircraft, such valves may be manual in operation.

**S.2.4. Zero-Set-Back Interlock, Vehicle-Tank Meters, Electronic.** - *Except for vehicle-mounted metering systems used solely for the delivery of aviation fuel, a device shall be so constructed that after an individual or multiple deliveries at one location have been completed, an automatic interlock system shall engage to prevent a subsequent delivery until the indicating and, if equipped, recording elements have been returned to their zero position. For individual deliveries, if there is no product flow for 3 minutes the transaction must be completed before additional product flow is allowed. The 3-minute timeout shall be a sealable feature on an indicator. [Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2006] (Added 2005)*

### S.3. Design of Discharge Lines and Discharge Line Valves. (Not applicable to milk-metering systems.)

**S.3.1. Diversion of Measured Liquid.** - Except on equipment used exclusively for fueling aircraft, no means shall be provided by which any measured liquid can be diverted from the measuring chamber of the meter or the discharge line therefrom. However, two or more delivery outlets may be installed if means is provided to insure that:

- (a) liquid can flow from only one such outlet at one time, and
- (b) the direction of flow for which the mechanism may be set at any time is definitely and conspicuously indicated.

**S.3.2. Pump-Discharge Unit.** - On a pump-discharge unit, the discharge hose shall be of the wet-hose type with a shutoff valve at its outlet end. However, a pump-discharge unit may be equipped also with a dry hose without a shutoff valve at its outlet end, but only if:

- (a) the dry hose is as short as practicable, and
- (b) there is incorporated in the discharge piping, immediately adjacent to the meter, effective means to insure that liquid can flow through only one of the discharge hoses at any one time and that the meter and the wet hose remain full of liquid at all times.

**S.3.3. Gravity-Discharge Unit.** - On a gravity-discharge unit, the discharge hose or equivalent pipe shall be of the dry-hose type with no shutoff valve at its outlet end. The dry hose shall be of such stiffness and only of such length

as to facilitate its drainage. The inlet end of the hose or of an equivalent outlet pipe shall be of such height as to provide for proper drainage of the hose or pipe. There shall be incorporated an automatic vacuum breaker or equivalent means to prevent siphoning and to insure the rapid and complete drainage.

**S.3.4. Discharge Hose.** - A discharge hose shall be adequately reinforced.

**S.3.5. Discharge Valve.** - A discharge valve may be installed in the discharge line only if the device is of the wet-hose type, in which case such valve shall be at the discharge end of the line. Any other shutoff valve on the discharge side of the meter shall be of the automatic or semiautomatic predetermined-stop type or shall be operable only:

- (a) by means of a tool (but not a pin) entirely separate from the device, or
- (b) by mutilation of a security seal with which the valve is sealed open.

**S.3.6. Antidrain Valve.** - In a wet-hose, pressure-type device, an effective antidrain valve shall be incorporated in the discharge valve or immediately adjacent thereto. The antidrain valve shall function so as to prevent the drainage of the discharge hose. However, a device used exclusively for fueling and defueling aircraft may be of the pressure type without an antidrain valve.

### S.4. Design of Intake Lines (for Milk-Metering Systems).

**S.4.1. Diversion of Liquid to be Measured.** - No means shall be provided by which any liquid can be diverted from the supply tank to the receiving tank without being measured by the device.

**S.4.2. Intake Hose.** - The intake hose shall be:

- (a) of the dry-hose type;
- (b) adequately reinforced;
- (c) not more than 6 m (20 ft) in length, unless it can be demonstrated that a longer hose is essential to permit pickups from a supply tank; and
- (d) connected to the pump at horizontal or above, to permit complete drainage of the hose.

### S.5. Marking Requirements

**S.5.1. Limitation of Use.** - If a meter is intended to measure accurately only liquids having particular properties, or to measure accurately only under specific installation or operating conditions, or to measure accurately only when used in conjunction with specific accessory equipment, these limitations shall be clearly and permanently stated on the meter.

### 3.31. Vehicle-Tank Meters

**S.5.2. Discharge Rates.** - A meter shall be marked to show its designed maximum and minimum discharge rates. However, the minimum discharge rate shall not exceed 20% of the maximum discharge rate.

**Note:** See example in Section 3.30. Liquid-Measuring Devices Code, paragraph S.4.4.1.  
(Added 2003)

**S.5.3. Measuring Components Milk-Metering System.** All components that affect the measurement of milk that are disassembled for cleaning purposes shall be clearly and permanently identified with a common serial number.

**S.5.4. Flood Volume, Milk-Metering System.** - When applicable, the volume of product necessary to flood the system when dry shall be clearly, conspicuously, and permanently marked on the air eliminator.

**S.5.5. Conversion Factor.** - When the conversion factor of 1.03 kg/L (8.6 lb/gal) is used to convert the volume of milk to weight, the conversion factor shall be clearly marked on the primary indicating element and recorded on the delivery ticket.  
(Added 1989)

## N. Notes

### N.1. Test Liquid.

- (a) A measuring system shall be tested with the liquid to be commercially measured or with a liquid of the same general physical characteristics. Following a satisfactory examination, the weights and measures official should attach a seal or tag indicating the product used during the test.  
(Amended 1975)

- (b) A milk measuring system shall be tested with the type of milk to be measured when the accuracy of the system is affected by the characteristics of milk (e.g., positive displacement meters).  
(Amended 1989)

**N.2. Evaporation and Volume Change.** - Care shall be exercised to reduce to a minimum, evaporation losses and volume changes resulting from changes in temperature of the test liquid.

**N.3. Test Drafts.** - Test drafts should be equal to at least the amount delivered by the device in 1 minute at its maximum discharge rate, and shall in no case be less than 180 L (50 gal) or 225 kg (500 lb).  
(Amended 1989)

### N.4. Testing Procedures

**N.4.1. Normal Tests.** - The “normal” test of a measuring system shall be made at the maximum discharge rate that may be anticipated under the conditions of the installation. Any additional tests conducted at flow rates down to and

including one-half of the sum of the maximum discharge flow rate and the rated minimum discharge flow rate shall be considered normal tests.  
(Amended 1992)

**N.4.1.1. Milk Measuring System.** - The “normal” test shall include a determination of the effectiveness of the air elimination system.

**N.4.1.2. Repeatability Tests.** - Tests for repeatability should include a minimum of three consecutive test drafts of approximately the same size and be conducted under controlled conditions where variations in factors such as, temperature pressure and flow rate are reduced to the extent that they will not affect the results obtained.  
(Added 2001)

**N.4.2. Special Tests (Except Milk-Measuring Systems).** “Special” tests shall be made to develop the operating characteristics of a measuring system and any special elements and accessories attached to or associated with the device. Any test except as set forth in N.4.1. and N.4.5. shall be considered a special test. Special test of a measuring system shall be made at a minimum discharge rate of 20% of the marked maximum discharge rate or at the minimum discharge rate marked on the device whichever is less.  
(Amended 1978 and 2005)

**N.4.3. Antidrain Valve Test.** - The effectiveness of the antidrain valve shall be tested after the pump pressure in the measuring system has been released and a valve between the supply tank and the discharge valve is closed.

**N.4.4. System Capacity.** - The test of a milk-measuring system shall include the verification of the volume of product necessary to flood the system as marked on the air eliminator.

**N.4.5. Product Depletion Test.** - Except for vehicle-mounted metering systems used solely for the delivery of aviation fuel, the effectiveness of the vapor eliminator or vapor elimination means shall be tested by dispensing product at the normal flow rate until the product supply is depleted and continuing until the lack of fluid causes the meter indication to stop completely for at least 10 seconds. If the meter indication fails to stop completely for at least 10 seconds, continue to operate the system for 3 minutes. Finish the test by switching to another compartment with sufficient product to complete the test on a multi-compartment vehicle or by adding sufficient product to complete the test to a single compartment vehicle. When adding product to a single compartment vehicle, allow appropriate time for any entrapped vapor to disperse before continuing the test. Test drafts shall be of the same size and run at approximately the same flow rate.  
(Added 2005)

**T. Tolerances**

**T.2. Tolerance Values.** – Maintenance, acceptance, and special test tolerances shall be as shown in Tables 1 and 2. (Amended 1995 and 2002)

**T.1. Application.****T.1.1. To Underregistration and to Overregistration.**

The tolerances hereinafter prescribed shall be applied to errors of underregistration and errors of overregistration.

Tolerances, Table 1. Accuracy Classes for Vehicle-Tank Meters					
Accuracy Class	Application		Acceptance Tolerance	Maintenance Tolerance	Special Test Tolerance
0.3	Petroleum products including large capacity motor fuel devices (flow rates over 115 L/min (30 gpm))**, heated products at or greater than 50 °C asphalt at or below temperatures 50 °C, all other liquids not shown where the typical delivery is over 200 L (50 gal).		0.15 %	0.3 %	0.45 %
0.3A	Asphalt at temperatures greater than 50 °C.		0.3 %	0.3 %	0.5 %
0.5*	Petroleum products delivered from small capacity (at 4 L/min (1 gpm) through 115 L/min (30 gpm))** motor-fuel devices, agri-chemical liquids, and all other applications not shown.		0.3 %	0.5 %	0.5 %
1.1	Petroleum products and other normal liquids from devices with flow rates** less than 1 gpm and devices designed to deliver less than one gallon.		0.75 %	1.0 %	1.25 %
1.5	Water	Overregistration	1.5 %	1.5 %	1.5 %
		Underregistration	1.5 %	1.5 %	5.0 %
* For 5-gallon and 10-gallon test drafts, the tolerances specified for Accuracy Class 0.5 in the table above do not apply. For these test drafts, the maintenance tolerances on normal and special tests for 5-gallon and 10-gallon test drafts are 6 cubic inches and 11 cubic inches, respectively. Acceptance tolerances on normal and special tests are 3 cubic inches and 5.5 cubic inches.					
** Flow rate refers to designed or marked maximum flow rate.					

(Added 2002) (Amended 2003)

<b>Table 2. Tolerances for Vehicle-Mounted Milk Meters</b>		
<b>Indication</b>	<b>Maintenance</b>	<b>Acceptance</b>
<b>gallons</b>	<b>gallons</b>	<b>gallons</b>
100	0.5	0.3
200	0.7	0.4
300	0.9	0.5
400	1.1	0.6
500	1.3	0.7
Over 500	Add 0.002 gallon per indicated gallon over 500	Add 0.001 gallon per Indicated gallon over 500

(Added 1989)

### 3.31. Vehicle-Tank Meters

**T.3. Repeatability.** - When multiple tests are conducted at approximately the same flow rate and draft size, the range of the test results for the flow rate shall not exceed 40 percent absolute value of the maintenance tolerance and the results of each test shall be within the applicable tolerance. See also N.4.1.2.

(Added 1992) (Amended 2001 and 2002)

**T.4. Product Depletion Test.** - The range of the test results for the normal test and the product depletion test shall not exceed the tolerance shown in Table T.4. Test drafts shall be of the same size and run at approximately the same flow rate.

[**Note:** The result of the product depletion test may fall outside of the applicable test tolerance as specified in Table T.2.]

(Added 2005)

Table T.4. Tolerances for Vehicle-Tank Meters on Product Depletion Tests, Except Milk Meters	
Meter Size	Maintenance and Acceptance Tolerances
Up to but not including 50 mm (2 in)	1.70 L (104 in <sup>3</sup> ) <sup>1</sup>
From 50 mm (2 in) up to but not including 75 mm (3 in)	2.25 L (137 in <sup>3</sup> ) <sup>1</sup>
75 mm (3 in) or larger	3.75 L (229 in <sup>3</sup> ) <sup>1</sup>
<sup>1</sup> Based on a test volume of at least the amount specified in N.3.	

(Table Added 2005)

## UR. User Requirements

### UR.1. Installation Requirements.

**UR.1.1. Discharge Rate.** - A meter shall be so installed that the actual maximum discharge rate will not exceed the rated maximum discharge rate. If necessary, means for flow regulation shall be incorporated in the installation, in which case this shall be fully effective and automatic in operation.

**UR.1.2. Unit Price.** - There shall be displayed on the face of a device of the computing type the unit price at which the device is set to compute.

**UR.1.3. Intake Hose.** - The intake hose in a milk-metering system shall be installed to permit complete drainage and ensure that all available product is measured following each pickup.

**UR.1.4. Liquid Measured.** - A vehicle-tank meter shall continue to be used to measure the same liquid or one with the same general physical properties as that used for calibration and weights and measures approval unless the

meter is recalibrated with a different product and tested by a registered service agency or a weights and measures official and approved by the weights and measures jurisdiction having statutory authority over the device.

(Added 2003)

### UR.2. Use Requirements.

**UR.2.1. Return of Indicating and Recording Elements to Zero.** - The primary indicating elements (visual), and the primary recording elements, when these are returnable to zero, shall be returned to zero immediately before each delivery is begun and after the pump has been activated and the product to be measured has been supplied to the measuring system.

(Amended 1981)

#### UR.2.2. Ticket Printer; Customer Ticket. [NOT ADOPTED]

### Section 4002.3. Vehicle-Tank Meters. (3.31.)

**UR.2.2. Ticket Printer; Customer Ticket.** Vehicle-mounted metering systems shall be equipped with a ticket printer which shall be used for all sales where product is delivered through the meter. A copy of the ticket issued by the device shall be left with the customer at the time of delivery or as otherwise specified by the customer.

[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1995.]

**UR.2.2.1. Exceptions for the Sale of Aviation Fuel.** - The provisions of UR.2.2. Ticket Printer; Customer Ticket shall not apply to vehicle-mounted metering systems used solely for the delivery of aviation fuel into aircraft and for aircraft-related operations.

(Added 1999) (Amended 2005)

**UR.2.3. Ticket in Printing Device.** - A ticket shall not be inserted into a device equipped with a ticket printer until immediately before a delivery is begun, and in no case shall a ticket be in the device when the vehicle is in motion while on a public street, highway, or thoroughfare.

**UR.2.4. Credit for Flood Volume.** - The volume of product necessary to flood the system as marked on the air eliminator shall be individually recorded on the pickup ticket of each seller affected.



**S.4.2. Discharge Rates.** - A device shall be marked to show its designed maximum and minimum discharge rates. The marked minimum discharge rate shall not exceed:

- (a) 20 L (5 gal) per minute for stationary retail devices, or
  - (b) 20% of the marked maximum discharge rate for other retail devices and for wholesale devices.
- (Amended 1987)

**Note:** See example in Section 3.30. Liquid-Measuring Devices Code, paragraph S.4.4.1.  
(Added 2003)

**S.4.3. Temperature Compensation.** - If a device is equipped with an automatic temperature compensator, the primary indicating elements, recording elements, and recorded representation shall be clearly and conspicuously marked to show that the volume delivered has been adjusted to the volume at 15 °C (60 °F).

## N. Notes

**N.1. Test Liquid.** - A device shall be tested with the liquid to be commercially measured or with a liquid of the same general physical characteristics.

**N.2. Vaporization and Volume Change.** - Care shall be exercised to reduce to a minimum, vaporization and volume changes.

**N.3. Test Drafts.** - Test drafts should be equal to at least the amount delivered by the device in 1 minute at its normal discharge rate.  
(Amended 1982)

## N.4. Testing Procedures.

**N.4.1. Normal Tests.** - The “normal” test of a device shall be made at the maximum discharge flow rate developed under the conditions of the installation. Any additional tests conducted at flow rates down to and including one-half the sum of the maximum discharge flow rate and the rated minimum discharge flow rate shall be considered normal tests.  
(Amended 1998)

### N.4.1.1. Automatic Temperature Compensation.

[NOT ADOPTED]

## 4002.4. Liquefied Petroleum Gas and Anhydrous Ammonia Liquid-Measuring Devices. (3.32.)

**(c) Wholesale Devices Equipped With Automatic Temperature Compensating Systems.** On wholesale devices equipped with automatic temperature compensating systems, normal tests:

- (1) Shall be conducted with the temperature compensating system connected and operating by comparing the compensated volume indicated or recorded to the actual delivered volume corrected to 60 °F; and
- (2) May be conducted with the temperature compensating system deactivated, comparing the uncompensated volume indicated or recorded to the actual delivered volume.

The first test shall be performed with the automatic temperature compensating system operating in the “as found” condition. On devices that indicate or record both the compensated and uncompensated volume for each delivery, the tests in (1) and (2) may be performed as a single test.

**N.4.1.2. Repeatability Tests.** - Tests for repeatability should include a minimum of three consecutive test drafts of approximately the same size and be conducted under controlled conditions where variations in factors such as, temperature pressure and flow rate are reduced to the extent that they will not affect the results obtained  
(Added 2001)

**N.4.2. Special Tests.** - “Special” tests shall be made to develop the operating characteristics of a device and any special elements and accessories attached to or associated with the device. Any test except as set forth in N.4.1. shall be considered a special test.  
(Amended 2005)

**N.4.2.1. For Motor-Fuel Devices.** - A motor-fuel device shall be so tested at a minimum discharge rate of:

- (a) 20 L (5 gal) per minute, or
- (b) the minimum discharge rate marked on the device, whichever is less.

### 3.32. LPG and Anhydrous Ammonia Liquid-Measuring Devices

**N.4.2.2. For Other Retail Devices.** - A retail device other than a motor-fuel device shall be tested at a minimum discharge rate of:

- (a) the minimum discharge rate that can be developed under the conditions of installation, or
  - (b) the minimum discharge rate marked on the device, whichever is greater.
- (Amended 1973)

**N.4.2.3. For Wholesale Devices.** - A wholesale device shall be so tested at a minimum discharge rate of:

- (a) 40 L (10 gal) per minute for a device with a rated maximum discharge less than 180 L (50 gal) per minute.
  - (b) 20 percent of the marked maximum discharge rate for a device with a rated maximum discharge of 180 L (50 gal) per minute or more, or
  - (c) the minimum discharge rate marked on the device, whichever is least.
- (Amended 1987)

#### N.4.3. Money-Value Computation Tests.

**N.4.3.1. Laboratory Design Evaluation Tests.** - In the conduct of laboratory design evaluation tests, compliance with paragraph S.1.5.2. shall be determined by using the cone gear as a reference for the total quantity delivered. The indicated delivered quantity shall agree with the cone gear representation with the index of the indicator within the width of the graduation. The maximum allowable variation of the indicated sales price shall be as shown in Table 1.

**N.4.3.2. Field Tests.** - In the conduct of field tests to determine compliance with paragraph S.1.5.2. the maximum allowable variation in the indicated sales price shall be as shown in Table 1.  
(Added 1984)

**N.5. Temperature Correction.** - Corrections shall be made for any changes in volume resulting from the differences in liquid temperatures between time of passage through the meter and time of volumetric determination in the test measure.

### T. Tolerances

#### T.1. Application.

**T.1.1. To Underregistration and to Overregistration.** The tolerances hereinafter prescribed shall be applied to errors of underregistration and errors of overregistration, whether or not a device is equipped with an automatic temperature compensator.

**T.2. Tolerance Values.** - The maintenance and acceptance tolerances for normal and special tests shall be as shown in Table T.2.  
(Amended 1988, 1992 and 2003)

**T.3. Repeatability.** - When multiple tests are conducted at approximately the same flow rate and draft size, the range of the test results for the flow rate shall not exceed 40 percent of the absolute value of the maintenance tolerance and the results of each test shall be within applicable tolerance. This tolerance does not apply to the test of the automatic temperature compensating system. See also N.4.1.2.  
(Added 1992) (Amended 1997 and 2001)

**Table T.2. Accuracy Classes and Tolerance for  
LPG and Anhydrous Ammonia Liquid-Measuring Devices**

Accuracy Class	Application	Acceptance Tolerance	Maintenance Tolerance	Special Test Tolerance
1.0	Anhydrous ammonia, LPG (including vehicled tank meters)	0.6%	1.0%	1.0%

(Added 2003)

#### S.4. Marking Requirements.

**S.4.1. Limitations of Use.** - If a device is intended to measure accurately only products having particular properties, or to measure accurately only under specific installation or operating conditions, or to measure accurately only when used in conjunction with specific accessory equipment, these limitations shall be clearly and permanently stated on the device.

**S.4.2. Discharge Rates.** - A volume-measuring device shall be marked to show its rated gas capacity in cubic meters per hour or cubic feet per hour.  
(Amended 1973, 1991)

**S.4.3. Temperature Compensation.**  
[NOT ADOPTED]

#### 4002.5. Hydrocarbon Gas Vapor-Measuring Devices. (3.33.)

*(b) Temperature Compensation. - If a device is equipped with an automatic temperature compensator, this shall be indicated on the badge or immediately adjacent to the badge of the device and on the register.*

**S.4.4. Badge.** - A badge affixed in a prominent position on the front of the device shall show the manufacturer's name, serial number and model number of the device, and capacity rate of the device for the particular products that it was designed to meter as recommended by the manufacturer.

#### N. Notes

**N.1. Test Medium.** - The device shall be tested with air or the product to be measured.  
(Amended 1991)

**N.2. Temperature and Volume Change.** - Care should be exercised to reduce to a minimum any volume changes. The temperature of the air, bell-prover oil, and the meters under test should be within 1 °C (2 °F) of one another. The devices should remain in the proving room for at least 16 hours before starting any proving operations to allow the device temperature to approximate the temperature of the proving device.

**N.3. Test Drafts.** - Except for low-flame tests, test drafts shall be at least equal to one complete revolution of the largest capacity proving indicator, and shall in no case be less than 0.05 m<sup>3</sup> or 2 ft<sup>3</sup>. All flow rates shall be controlled by suitable outlet orifices.  
(Amended 1973 and 1990)

**N.4. Test Procedures.** - If a device is equipped with an automatic temperature compensator, the proving device reading shall be corrected to 15 °C (60 °F), using an approved table.  
(Amended 1972)

**N.4.1. Normal Tests.** - The normal test of a device shall be made at a rate not to exceed the capacity rate given on the badge of the meter.  
(Amended 1988)

**N.4.1.1. Automatic Temperature Compensation.**  
If a device is equipped with an automatic temperature compensator, the quantity of the test draft indication of the standard shall be corrected to 15 °C (60 °F).

**N.4.1.2. Repeatability Tests.** - Tests for repeatability should include a minimum of three consecutive test drafts of approximately the same size and be conducted under controlled conditions where variations in factors, such as temperature pressure, and flow rate are reduced to the extent that they will not affect the results obtained.  
(Added 2002)

**N.4.2. Special Tests.** - "Special" tests shall be made to develop the operating characteristics of a device and any special elements and accessories attached to or associated with the device. Any test except as set forth in N.4.1. shall be considered a special test.  
(Amended 2005)

**N.4.2.1. Slow Test.** - The device shall be tested at a rate not less than 20 percent of the marked capacity rate, or (at the check rate) not less than the minimum flow rate if marked on the device, whichever is less.  
(Amended 1988)

**N.4.2.2. Low-Flame Test.** - The device shall be tested at an extremely low-flow rate as given in Table 1. The test shall consist of passing air at a pressure of 375 Pa (1.5 in water column) through the meter for not less than 60 minutes. The meter shall continue to advance at the conclusion of the test period.  
(Amended 1990, 1991)

**N.4.2.3. Pressure Regulation Test.** - On devices operating at a pressure of 6 900 Pa (1 psig) or more, a pressure regulation test shall be made at both the minimum and maximum use load to determine the proper operation of the regulator and the proper sizing of the piping and dispensing equipment. These tests may include a test of 24 hours during which the pressure is recorded.  
(Added 1984)

### 3.33. Hydrocarbon Gas Vapor-Measuring Devices

**Table 1.**  
**Capacity of Low-Flow Test Rate Orifices**  
**With Respect to Device Capacity**

Metric Units		Inch-Pound Units	
Rated Capacity	Low-Flow Test Rate	Rated Capacity	Low-Flow Test Rate
Up to and including 7 m <sup>3</sup> /h	0.007 m <sup>3</sup> /h	Up to and including 250 ft <sup>3</sup> /h	0.25 ft <sup>3</sup> /h
Over 7 m <sup>3</sup> /h up to and including 14 m <sup>3</sup> /h	0.014 m <sup>3</sup> /h	Over 250 ft <sup>3</sup> /h up to and including 500 ft <sup>3</sup> /h	0.50 ft <sup>3</sup> /h
Over 14 m <sup>3</sup> /h	0.1% of capacity rate	Over 500 ft <sup>3</sup> /h	0.1% of capacity rate

(Amended 1973)

**N.5. Temperature Correction.** - Corrections shall be made for any changes in volume resulting from the difference in air temperatures between time of passage through the device and time of volumetric determination in the proving device.

**N.6. Frequency of Test.** - A hydrocarbon gas vapor-measuring device shall be tested before installation and allowed to remain in service for 10 years from the time last tested without being retested, unless a test is requested by:

- (a) the purchaser of the product being metered,
- (b) the seller of the product being metered, or
- (c) the weights and measures official.

#### **4002.5. Hydrocarbon Gas Vapor-Measuring Devices. (3.33.)**

- (a) **Leak Test.** Each meter shall be submitted to a pressure leak test not to exceed the manufacturer's maximum rated pressure.

### **T. Tolerances**

**T.1. Tolerance Values on Normal Tests and on Special Tests Other Than Low-Flame Tests.** - Maintenance and acceptance tolerances for normal and special tests for hydrocarbon gas vapor-measuring devices shall be as shown in Table T.1.

(Amended 1981 and 2003)

**T.2. Repeatability** – When multiple tests are conducted at approximately the same flow rate and draft size, the range of the test results for the flow rate shall not exceed 0.9% and the results of each test shall be within the applicable tolerance. *See also N.4.1.2.*

(Added 2002)

### **UR. User Requirements**

#### **UR.1. Installation Requirements.**

**UR.1.1. Capacity Rate.** - A device shall be so installed that the actual maximum flow rate will not exceed the capacity rate except for short durations. If necessary, means for flow regulation shall be incorporated in the installation, in which case this shall be fully effective and automatic in operation.

**Table T.1. Accuracy Classes and Tolerances for Hydrocarbon Gas Vapor-Measuring Devices**

Accuracy Class	Application		Acceptance Tolerance	Maintenance Tolerance
3.0	Gases at low pressure (for example, LPG vapor)	Overregistration	1.5%	1.5%
		Underregistration	3.0%	3.0%

(Added 2003)

(14.696 lb/in<sup>2</sup> absolute). *When a compensator system malfunctions, the indicating and recording elements may indicate and record in uncompensated volume if the mode of operation is clearly indicated, e.g., by a marked annunciator, recorded statement, or other obvious means.\**

*[\*Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1992.]*

(Amended 1991 and 2002)

**S.2.5. Provision for Sealing.** - Adequate provision shall be made for applying security seals in such a manner that no adjustment or interchange may be made of:

- (a) any measurement element,
- (b) any adjustable element for controlling delivery rate when such rate tends to affect the accuracy of deliveries, and
- (c) any automatic temperature or density compensating system.

Any adjusting mechanism shall be readily accessible for purposes of affixing a security seal.

### S.3. Design of Discharge Lines and Discharge Line Valves.

**S.3.1. Diversion of Measured Liquid.** - No means shall be provided by which any measured liquid can be diverted from the measuring chamber of the device or the discharge line therefrom, except that a manually controlled outlet that may be opened for purging or draining the measuring system shall be permitted. Effective means shall be provided to prevent the passage of liquid through any such outlet during normal operation of the device and to indicate clearly and unmistakably when the valve controls are so set as to permit passage of liquid through such outlet.

**S.3.2. Discharge Hose.** - The discharge hose of a measuring system shall be of the completely draining dry-hose type.

**S.4. Level Condition, On-Board Weighing Systems.** - Provision shall be made for automatically inhibiting the delivery of a cryogenic liquid when the vehicle is out-of-level beyond the limit required for the performance to be within applicable tolerance.  
(Added 1986)

### S.5. Marking Requirements.

**S.5.1. Limitation of Use.** - If a measuring system is intended to measure accurately only liquids having particular properties, or to measure accurately only under specific installation or operating conditions, or to measure

accurately only when used in conjunction with specific accessory equipment, these limitations shall be clearly and permanently marked on the device.

**S.5.2. Discharge Rates.** - A meter shall be marked to show its designed maximum and minimum discharge rates.

**S.5.3. Temperature or Density Compensation.** - Devices equipped with an automatic temperature or density compensator, shall be clearly and conspicuously marked on the primary indicating elements, recording elements, and recorded representations to show that the quantity delivered has been adjusted to the conditions specified in S.2.4.

### N. Notes

**N.1. Test Liquid.** - A meter shall be tested with the liquid to be commercially measured except that, in a type evaluation examination, nitrogen may be used.

**N.2. Vaporization and Volume Change.** - Care shall be exercised to reduce to a minimum vaporization and volume changes. When testing by weight, the weigh tank and transfer systems shall be precooled to liquid temperature prior to the start of the test to avoid the venting of vapor from the vessel being weighed.

### N.3. Test Drafts.

**N.3.1. Gravimetric Test.** - Weight test drafts shall be equal to at least the amount delivered by the device in two minutes at its maximum discharge rate, and shall in no case be less than 907 kg (2 000 lb).

**N.3.2. Transfer Standard Test.** - When comparing a meter with a calibrated transfer standard, the test draft shall be equal to at least the amount delivered by the device in two minutes at its maximum discharge rate, and shall in no case be less than 180 L (50 gal) or equivalent thereof. When testing uncompensated volumetric meters in a continuous recycle mode, appropriate corrections shall be applied if product conditions are abnormally affected by this test mode.  
(Amended 1976)

**N.4. Density.** - Temperature and pressure of the metered test liquid shall be measured during the test for the determination of density or volume correction factors when applicable. For Liquid Density and Volume Correction Factors (with respect to temperature and pressure) the publications shown in Table N.4. shall apply:  
(Amended 1986 and 2004)

### 3.34. Cryogenic Liquid-Measuring Devices

Table N.4. Density or Volume Correction Factors	
Cryogenic Liquid	Publication
Argon	Tegeler, Ch., Span, R., Wagner, W. "A New Equation of State for Argon Covering the Fluid Region for Temperatures from the Melting Line to 700 K at Pressures up to 1000". <i>Mpa J. Phys. Chem. Ref. Data</i> , 28(3):779-850, 1999.
Ethylene	Smukala, J., Span, R. Wagner, W. "New Equation of State for Ethylene Covering the Fluid Region for Temperatures from the Melting Line to 450 K at Pressures up to 300 MPA." <i>J. Phys. Chem. Ref. Data</i> , 29(5):1053-1122, 2000.
Nitrogen	Span, R., Lemmon, E. W., Jacobsen, R.T., Wagner, W., and Yokozeki, A. "A Reference Thermodynamic Property Formulation for Nitrogen." <i>J. Phys. Chem. Ref. Data</i> , Volume 29, Number 6, pp. 1361-1433, 2000.
Oxygen	Schmidt, R., Wagner, W. "A New Form of the Equation of State for Pure Substances and its Application to Oxygen." <i>Fluid Phase Equilib.</i> , 19:175-200, 1985.
Hydrogen	"Thermophysical Properties of Fluids. 1. "Argon, Ethylene, Parahydrogen, Nitrogen, Nitrogen Trifluoride, and Oxygen," published in the <i>Journal of Physical and Chemical Reference Data</i> , Volume 11, 1982, Supplement No. 1, and published by the American Chemical Society and the American Institute of Physics for the National Institute of Standards and Technology.
Note: A complete database program containing all of the most recent equations for calculating density for various cryogenic liquids is available at <a href="http://www.nist.gov/srd/nist23.htm">www.nist.gov/srd/nist23.htm</a> . There is a fee for download of this database.	

(Added 2004)

### N.5. Testing Procedures.

**N.5.1. Normal Tests.** - The "normal" tests of a device shall be made over a range of discharge rates that may be anticipated under the conditions of installation.

**N.5.1.1. Repeatability Tests.** - Tests for repeatability should include a minimum of three consecutive test drafts of approximately the same size and be conducted under controlled conditions where variations in factors, such as, temperature pressure and flow rate are reduced to the extent that they will not affect the results obtained.  
(Added 2001)

**N.5.2. Special Tests.** - Any test except as set forth in N.5.1. shall be considered a "special" test. Tests shall be conducted, if possible, to evaluate any special elements or accessories attached to or associated with the device. A device shall be tested at a minimum discharge rate of:

- (a) 50% of the maximum discharge rate developed under the conditions of installation, or the minimum discharge rate marked on the device, whichever is less, or
- (b) the lowest discharge rate practicable under conditions of installation.

Special tests may be conducted to develop any characteristics of the device that are not normally anticipated under the conditions of installation.

(Amended 2005)

**N.6. Temperature Correction.** - Corrections shall be made for any changes in volume resulting from the differences in liquid temperature between time of passage through the meter and time of volumetric determination of test draft.

**N.7. Automatic Temperature or Density Compensation.** When a device is equipped with an automatic temperature or density compensator, the compensator shall be tested by comparing the quantity indicated or recorded by the device (with the compensator connected and operating) with the actual delivered quantity corrected to the normal boiling point of the cryogenic product being measured or to the normal temperature and pressure as applicable.

### T. Tolerances

#### T.1. Application.

**T.1.1. To Underregistration and to Overregistration.** The tolerances hereinafter prescribed shall be applied to errors of underregistration and errors of overregistration.

from the supply tank to the receiving tank without being measured by the device. A manually controlled outlet that may be opened for purging or draining the measuring system shall be permitted. Effective means shall be provided to prevent passage of liquid through any such outlet during normal operation of the measuring system. (Amended 1994)

**S.3.2. Intake Hose.** - The intake hose shall be:

- (a) of the dry-hose type,
- (b) adequately reinforced,
- (c) not more than 6 m (20 ft) in length unless it can be demonstrated that a longer hose is essential to permit transfer from a supply tank; and
- (d) connected to the pump at horizontal or above to permit complete drainage of the hose. (Amended 1991)

#### **S.4. Marking Requirements.**

**S.4.1. Limitation of Use.** - If a meter is intended to measure accurately only liquids having particular properties, or to measure accurately only under specific installation or operating conditions, or to measure accurately only when used in conjunction with specific accessory equipment, these limitations shall be clearly and permanently stated on the meter.

**S.4.2. Discharge Rates.** - A meter shall be marked to show its designed maximum and minimum discharge rates. The marked minimum discharge rate shall not exceed 20% of the marked maximum discharge rate. (Amended 2003)

**Note:** See Example in Section 3.30. Liquid-Measuring Devices Code, paragraph S.4.4.1. (Added 2003)

**S.4.3. Measuring Components.** - All components that affect the measurement of milk that are disassembled for cleaning purposes shall be clearly and permanently identified with a common serial number.

**S.4.4. Flood Volume.** - When applicable, the volume of product (to the nearest minimum division of the meter) necessary to flood the system when dry shall be clearly, conspicuously, and permanently marked on the air eliminator.

**S.4.5. Conversion Factor.** - When the conversion factor of 1.03 kg/L (8.6 lb/gal) is used to convert the volume of milk to weight, the conversion factor shall be clearly marked on the primary indicating element and recorded on the delivery ticket.

## **N. Notes**

### **N.1. Test Liquid.**

- (a) A meter shall be tested with the liquid to be commercially measured or with a liquid of the same general physical characteristics. Following a satisfactory examination, the weights and measures official should attach a seal or tag indicating the product used during the test. (Amended 1989)
- (b) A milk measuring system shall be tested with the type of milk to be measured when the accuracy of the system is affected by the characteristics of milk (e.g., positive displacement meters). (Added 1989)

**N.2. Evaporation and Volume Change.** - Care shall be exercised to reduce to a minimum, evaporation losses and volume changes resulting from changes in temperature of the test liquid.

**N.2.1. Temperature Correction.** - Corrections shall be made for any changes in volume resulting from the differences in liquid temperatures between time of passage through the meter and time of volumetric determination in the test measure. When adjustments are necessary, appropriate tables should be used.

**N.3. Test Drafts.** - Test drafts should be equal to at least the amount delivered by the device in one minute at its maximum discharge rate, and shall in no case be less than 400 L or 400 kg (100 gal or 1 000 lb). (Amended 1989)

### **N.4. Testing Procedures.**

**N.4.1. Normal Tests.** - The “normal” test of a meter shall be made at the maximum discharge rate that may be anticipated under the conditions of the installation. The “normal” test shall include a determination of the effectiveness of the air elimination system.

**N.4.1.1. Repeatability Tests.** - Tests for repeatability should include a minimum of three consecutive test drafts of approximately the same size and be conducted under controlled conditions where variations in factors, such as temperature, pressure, and flow rate are reduced to the extent that they will not affect the results obtained. (Added 2002)

### 3.35. Milk Meters

**N.4.2. Special Tests.** - “Special” tests shall be made to develop the operating characteristics of a device and any special elements and accessories attached to or associated with the device. Any test except as set forth in N.4.1. shall be considered a special test.  
(Amended 2005)

**N.4.3. System Capacity.** - The test of a milk-metering system shall include the verification of the volume of product necessary to flood the system as marked on the air eliminator.

## T. Tolerances

### T.1. Application.

**T.1.1. To Underregistration and to Overregistration.**  
The tolerances hereinafter prescribed shall be applied to errors of underregistration and errors of overregistration.

**T.2. Tolerance Values.** - Maintenance and acceptance tolerances shall be as shown in Table 1.  
(Amended 1989)

Table 1. Tolerances		
Milk Meters		
Indication	Maintenance	Acceptance
gallons	gallons	gallons
100	0.5	0.3
200	0.7	0.4
300	0.9	0.5
400	1.1	0.6
500	1.3	0.7
Over 500	Add 0.002 gallon per indicated gallon over 500	Add 0.001 gallon per indicated gallon over 500

\*Added 1989

**T.3. Repeatability** – When multiple tests are conducted at approximately the same flow rate and draft size, the range of the test results for the flow rate shall not exceed 40 percent of the absolute value of the maintenance tolerance and the results of each test shall be within the applicable tolerance. See also N.4.1.1.  
(Added 2002)

## UR. User Requirements

### UR.1. Installation Requirements.

**UR.1.1. Plumb and Level Condition.** - A device installed in a fixed location shall be installed plumb and level, and the installation shall be sufficiently strong and rigid to maintain this condition.

**UR.1.2. Discharge Rate.** - A meter shall be so installed that the actual maximum discharge rate will not exceed the rated maximum discharge rate. If necessary, means for flow regulation shall be incorporated in the installation, in which case this shall be fully effective and automatic in operation.

**UR.1.3. Unit Price.** - There shall be displayed on the face of a device of the computing type the unit price at which the device is set to compute.

**UR.1.4. Intake Hose.** - The intake hose shall be so installed as to permit complete drainage and that all available product is measured following each transfer.

### UR.2. Use Requirements.

**UR.2.1. Return of Indicating and Recording Elements to Zero.** - The primary indicating elements (visual), and the primary recording elements when these are returnable to zero, shall be returned to zero before each transfer.

**UR.2.2. Printed Ticket.** - Any printed ticket issued by a device of the computing type on which there is printed the total computed price, the total quantity, or the price per unit of quantity, shall also show the other two values (either printed or in clear script).  
(Amended 1989)

**UR.2.3. Ticket in Printing Device.** - A ticket shall not be inserted into a device equipped with a ticket printer until immediately before a transfer is begun. If the meter is mounted on a vehicle, in no case shall a ticket be in the device when the vehicle is in motion while on a public street, highway, or thoroughfare.

**UR.2.4. Credit for Flood Volume.** - The volume of product necessary to flood the system as marked on the air eliminator shall be individually recorded on the ticket of each transfer affected.



- (b) *the unit price,*
- (c) *the total computed price, and*
- (d) *the product identity by name, symbol, abbreviation, or code number.*

[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1986.]

(Added 1993) (Amended 2000)

**S.2.8. Indication of Delivery.** - *The device shall automatically show on its face the initial zero condition and the quantity delivered (up to the nominal capacity). However, the first 0.03 L (0.009 gal) of a delivery and its associated total sales price need not be indicated.*

[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1998]

(Added 1997)

### S.3. Measuring Elements and Measuring Systems.

#### S.3.1. Maximum and Minimum Flow-Rates.

- (a) The ratio of the maximum to minimum flow-rates specified by the manufacturer for devices measuring liquified gases shall be 5:1 or greater.
- (b) The ratio of the maximum to minimum flow-rates specified by the manufacturer for devices measuring other than liquified gases shall be 10:1 or greater.

**S.3.2. Adjustment Means.** - An assembly shall be provided with means to change the ratio between the indicated quantity and the quantity of liquid measured by the assembly. A bypass on the measuring assembly shall not be used for these means.

**S.3.2.1. Discontinuous Adjusting Means.** - When the adjusting means changes the ratio between the indicated quantity and the quantity of measured liquid in a discontinuous manner, the consecutive values of the ratio shall not differ by more than 0.1 percent.

**S.3.3. Vapor Elimination.** - A liquid-measuring instrument or measuring system shall be equipped with an effective vapor or air eliminator or other effective means, automatic in operation, to prevent the measurement of vapor and air. Vent lines from the air or vapor eliminator shall be made of metal tubing or some other suitable rigid material.

(Amended 1999)

#### S.3.3.1. Vapor Elimination on Loading Rack Liquid Metering Systems.

- (a) A loading rack liquid metering system shall be equipped with a vapor or air eliminator or other automatic means to prevent the passage of vapor and air through the meter unless the system is designed or operationally controlled by a method, approved by the weights and measures jurisdiction having statutory authority over the device, such that neither air nor vapor can enter the system.

- (b) Vent lines from the air or vapor eliminator (if present) shall be made of metal tubing or other rigid material.

(Added 1995)

**S.3.4. Maintenance of Liquid State.** - A liquid-measuring device shall be installed so that the measured product remains in a liquid state during passage through the instrument.

**S.3.5. Provision for Sealing.** - Adequate provision shall be made for an approved means of security (e.g., data change audit trail) or physically applying security seals in such a manner that no adjustment may be made of:

- (a) any measurement element;
- (b) any adjustable element for controlling delivery rate when such rate tends to affect the accuracy of deliveries; or
- (c) the zero adjustment mechanism.

When applicable, the adjusting mechanism shall be readily accessible for purposes of affixing a security seal.

Audit trails shall use the format set forth in Table S.3.5.

(Amended 1992 and 1995)

#### S.3.6. Automatic Density Correction.

- (a) An automatic means to determine and correct for changes in product density shall be incorporated in any mass flow metering system that is affected by changes in the density of the product being measured.

- (b) Volume-measuring devices with automatic temperature compensation used to measure natural gas as a motor vehicle engine fuel shall be equipped with an automatic means to determine and correct for changes in product density due to changes in the temperature, pressure, and composition of the product.

(Amended 1994, 1997 and 2000)

### 3.37. Mass Flow Meters

**Table S.3.5. Categories of Device and Methods of Sealing**

<b>Category of Device</b>	<b>Method of Sealing</b>
Category 1: No remote configuration capability.	Seal by physical seal or two event counters: one for calibration parameters and one for configuration parameters.
<p>[Category 2 applies to only devices manufactured prior to January 1, 2005. Devices with remote configuration capability manufactured after that date must meet the sealing requirements outlined in Category 3. Devices without remote configuration capability manufactured after that date must meet the minimum criteria outlined in Category 1.]</p> <p>Category 2: Remote configuration capability, but access is controlled by physical hardware.</p> <p>The device shall clearly indicate that it is in the remote configuration mode and record such message if capable of printing in this mode or shall not operate while in this mode.</p>	<p>[The hardware enabling access for remote communication must be on-site. The hardware must be sealed using a physical seal or event counter for calibration parameters and an event counter for configuration parameters. The event counters may be located either at the individual measuring device or at the system controller; however, an adequate number of counters must be provided to monitor the calibration and configuration parameters of the individual devices at a location. If the counters are located in the system controller rather than at the individual device, means must be provided to generate a hard copy of the information through an on-site device.]*</p> <p>[* Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1996]</p>
<p>Category 3: Remote configuration capability access may be unlimited or controlled through a software switch (e.g., password).</p> <p>The device shall clearly indicate that it is in the remote configuration mode and record such message if capable of printing in this mode or shall not operate while in this mode. [Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2001]</p> <p>Nonretroactive as of January 1, 2005, all devices with remote configuration capability must comply with the sealing requirements of Category 3.</p>	<p>An event logger is required in the device; it must include an event counter (000 to 999), the parameter ID, the date and time of the change, and the new value of the parameter. A printed copy of the information must be available through the device or through another on-site device. The event logger shall have a capacity to retain records equal to ten times the number of sealable parameters in the device, but not more than 1000 records are required. (Note: Does not require 1000 changes to be stored for each parameter.)</p>

[Nonretroactive and enforceable as of January 1, 1995]

(Table Added 1995) (Amended 1998, 1999 and 2005)

**S.3.7. Pressurizing the Discharge Hose.** - The discharge hose for compressed natural gas shall automatically pressurize prior to the device beginning to register the delivery.

(Added 1993)

**S.3.8. Zero-Set-Back Interlock, Retail Motor-Fuel Devices.** - A device shall be constructed so that:

- (a) after a delivery cycle has been completed by moving the starting lever to any position that shuts off the device, an automatic interlock prevents a subsequent delivery until the indicating elements, and recording elements if the device is equipped and activated to record, have been returned to their zero positions;

(Added 1993)

- (b) the discharge nozzle cannot be returned to its designed hanging position (that is, any position where the tip of the nozzle is placed in its designed receptacle and the lock can be inserted) until the starting lever is in its designed shut-off position and the zero-set-back interlock has been engaged; and

- (c) in a system with more than one dispenser supplied by a single pump, an effective automatic control valve in each dispenser prevents product from being delivered until the indicating elements on that dispenser are in a correct zero position.

**S.4. Discharge Lines and Valves.**

**S.4.1. Diversion of Measured Product.** - No means shall be provided by which any measured product can be diverted from the measuring instrument. However, two or more delivery outlets may be permanently installed and operated simultaneously, provided that any diversion of flow to other than the intended receiving receptacle cannot be readily accomplished or is readily apparent. Such means include physical barriers, visible valves or indications that make it clear which outlets are in operation, and explanatory signs if deemed necessary.

A manually controlled outlet that may be opened for purging or draining the measuring system, or for recirculating product if recirculation is required in order to maintain the product in a deliverable state shall be permitted. Effective means shall be provided to prevent the passage of liquid through any such outlet during normal operation of the measuring system and to inhibit meter indications (or advancement of indications) and recorded representations while the outlet is in operation. (Amended 2002)

**S.4.2. Pump-Discharge Unit.** - A pump-discharge unit for liquids equipped with a flexible discharge hose shall be of the wet-hose type. (Added 1993)

**S.4.3. Directional Flow Valves.** - If a reversal of flow could result in errors that exceed the tolerance for the minimum measured quantity, a valve or valves or other effective means, automatic in operation (and equipped with a pressure limiting device, if necessary) to prevent the reversal of flow shall be properly installed in the system. (See N.1.)

**S.4.4. Discharge Valves.** - A discharge valve may be installed on a discharge line only if the system is a wet-hose type. Any other shut-off valve on the discharge side of the instrument shall be of the automatic or semiautomatic predetermined-stop type or shall be operable only:

- by means of a tool (but not a pin) entirely separate from the device, or
- by means of a security seal with which the valve is sealed open.

**S.4.5. Antidrain Means.** - In a wet-hose type device, effective means shall be provided to prevent the drainage of the hose between transactions.

**S.4.6. Other Valves.** - Check valves and closing mechanisms that are not used to define the measured quantity shall have relief valves (if necessary) to dissipate

any abnormally high pressure that may arise in the measuring assembly.

**S.5. Markings.** - A measuring system shall be legibly and indelibly marked with the following information:

- (a) pattern approval mark (i.e., type approval number);
- (b) name and address of the manufacturer or his trademark and, if required by the weights and measures authority, the manufacturer's identification mark in addition to the trademark;
- (c) model designation or product name selected by the manufacturer;
- (d) nonrepetitive serial number;
- (e) *the accuracy class of the meter as specified by the manufacturer consistent with Table T.2.;*\* (Added 1994)
- (f) maximum and minimum flow rates in pounds per unit of time;
- (g) maximum working pressure;
- (h) applicable range of temperature if other than -10 °C to +50 °C;
- (i) minimum measured quantity; and
- (j) product limitations, if applicable.

[\*Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1995.]

**S.5.1. Marking of Gasoline Volume Equivalent Conversion Factor.** - A device dispensing compressed natural gas shall have either the statement "1 Gasoline Liter Equivalent (GLE) is Equal to 0.678 kg of Natural Gas" or "1 Gasoline Gallon Equivalent (GGE) is Equal to 5.660 lb of Natural Gas" permanently and conspicuously marked on the face of the dispenser according to the method of sale used. (Added 1994)

**S.6. Printer.** - When an assembly is equipped with means for printing the measured quantity, the following conditions apply:

- (a) the scale interval shall be the same as that of the indicator;
- (b) the value of the printed quantity shall be the same value as the indicated quantity;
- (c) a quantity for a delivery (other than an initial reference value) cannot be recorded until the measurement and delivery has been completed;

### 3.37. Mass Flow Meters

- (d) the printer is returned to zero when the resettable indicator is returned to zero; and
- (e) the printed values shall meet the requirements applicable to the indicated values.

**S.6.1. Printed Receipt.** - Any delivered, printed quantity shall include an identification number, the time and date, and the name of the seller. This information may be printed by the device or preprinted on the ticket.

**S.7. Totalizers for Retail Motor-Fuel Devices.** - *Retail motor-fuel dispensers shall be equipped with a nonresettable totalizer for the quantity delivered through the metering device.*

*[Nonretroactive as of January 1, 1998]*

(Added 1997)

## N. Notes

**N.1. Minimum Measured Quantity.** - The minimum measured quantity shall be specified by the manufacturer.

### N.2. Test Medium.

**N.2.1. Liquid-Measuring Devices.** - The device shall be tested with the liquid that the device is intended to measure or another liquid with the same general physical characteristics.

**N.2.2. Vapor-Measuring Devices.** - The device shall be tested with air or the product to be measured.

**N.3. Test Drafts.** - The minimum test shall be one test draft at the maximum flow rate of the installation and one test draft at the minimum flow rate. More tests may be performed at these or other flow rates. (See T.3.)

**N.4. Minimum Measured Quantity.** - The device shall be tested for a delivery equal to the declared minimum measured quantity when the device is likely to be used to make deliveries on the order of the minimum measured quantity.

**N.5. Motor Fuel Dispenser.** - When a device is intended for use as a liquid motor-fuel dispenser, the type evaluation test shall include a test for accuracy using 5 starts and stops during a delivery to simulate the operation of the automatic shut-off nozzle. This test may be conducted as part of the normal inspection and test of the meter.

### N.6. Testing Procedures.

**N.6.1. Normal Tests.** - The normal test of a meter shall be made at the maximum discharge rate developed by the installation. Any additional tests conducted at flow rates down to and including the rated minimum discharge flow rate shall be considered normal tests.  
(Added 1999)

**N.6.1.1. Repeatability Tests.** - Tests for repeatability should include a minimum of three consecutive test drafts of approximately the same size and be conducted under controlled conditions where variations in factors, such as, temperature pressure and flow rate are reduced to the extent that they will not affect the results obtained.  
(Added 2001)

**N.6.2. Special Tests.** - Special tests shall be made to develop the operating characteristics of a device and any special elements and accessories attached to or associated with the device. Any test except as set forth in N.6.1. shall be considered a special test. Special tests of a measuring system shall be made to develop operating characteristics of the measuring systems during a split compartment delivery. (See Table T.2.)  
(Added 1999) (Amended 2005)

## T. Tolerances

### T.1. Tolerances, General

- (a) The tolerances apply equally to errors of underregistration and errors of overregistration.
- (b) The tolerances apply to all products at all temperatures measured at any flow rate within the rated measuring range of the meter.  
(Amended 1999)

**T.2. Tolerances.** - The tolerances for mass flow meters for specific liquids, gases, and applications are listed in Table T.2.  
(Amended 1994 and 1999)

**T.3. Repeatability.** - When multiple tests are conducted at approximately the same flow rate and draft size, the range of the test results for the flow rate shall not exceed 40 percent of the absolute value of the maintenance tolerance and the results of each test shall be within the applicable tolerance. See also N.6.1.1.  
(Amended 1992, 1994 and 2001)

**T.4. Type Evaluation Examinations for Liquid-Measuring Devices.** - For type evaluation examinations, the tolerance values shall apply under the following conditions:

- (a) with any one liquid within the range of liquids,
- (b) at any one liquid temperature and pressure within the operating range of the meter, and
- (c) at all flow rates within the range of flow rates.  
(Added 1993) (Amended 1994)

## Definitions

The specific code to which the definition applies is shown in [brackets] at the end of the definition. Definitions for the General Code [1.10] apply to all codes in Handbook 44.

### A

**absolute value.** The absolute value of a number is the magnitude of that number without considering the positive or negative sign. [2.20]

**acceptance test.** The first official test of a farm milk tank, at a particular location, in which the tank is accepted as correct. This test applies to newly constructed tanks, relocated used tanks, and recalibrated tanks. [4.43]

**accurate.** A piece of equipment is “accurate” when its performance or value—that is, its indications, its deliveries, its recorded representations, or its capacity or actual value, etc., as determined by tests made with suitable standards—conforms to the standard within the applicable tolerances and other performance requirements. Equipment that fails so to conform is “inaccurate.” (Also see “correct.”) [1.10]

**analog type.** A system of indication or recording in which values are presented as a series of graduations in combination with an indicator, or in which the most sensitive element of an indicating system moves continuously during the operation of the device. [1.10]

**animal scale.** A scale designed for weighing single heads of livestock. [2.20]  
(Amended 1987)

**apparent mass versus  $8.0 \text{ g/cm}^3$ .** The apparent mass of an object versus  $8.0 \text{ g/cm}^3$  is the mass of material of density  $8.0 \text{ g/cm}^3$  that produces exactly the same balance reading as the object when the comparison is made in air with a density of  $1.2 \text{ mg/cm}^3$  at  $20^\circ\text{C}$ . [3.30, 3.32]

**approval seal.** A label, tag, stamped or etched impression, or the like, indicating official approval of a device. (Also see “security seal.”) [1.10]

**atmospheric pressure.** The average atmospheric pressure agreed to exist at the meter at various ranges of elevation, irrespective of variations in atmospheric pressure from time to time. [3.33]

**audit trail.** An electronic count and/or information record of the changes to the values of the calibration or configuration parameters of a device. [1.10, 2.20, 3.30]  
(Added 1993)

**automatic bulk weighing system.** A weighing system adapted to the automatic weighing of bulk commodities in successive drafts of predetermined amounts, automatically recording the no-load and loaded weight values and accumulating the net weight of each draft. [2.22]

**automatic checkweigher.** An automatic weighing system that does not require the intervention of an operator during the weighing process and used to subdivide items of different weights into one or more subgroups, such as identifying packages that have acceptable or unacceptable fill levels according to the value of the difference between their weight and a pre-determined set point. These systems may be used to fill standard packages for compliance with net weight requirements. [2.24]  
(Added 2004)

**automatic gravimetric filling machine (instrument).** A filling machine or instrument that fills containers or packages with predetermined and virtually constant mass of product from bulk by automatic weighing, and which comprises essentially an automatic feeding device or devices associated with one or more weighing unit and the appropriate discharge devices. [2.24]  
(Added 2004)

**automatic hopper scale.** One adapted to the automatic weighing of bulk commodity in successive drafts of predetermined amounts. (This is not an “automatic-indicating scale” defined below.) [2.20]

**automatic-indicating scale.** One on which the weights of applied loads of various magnitudes are automatically indicated throughout all or a portion of the weighing range of the scale. (A scale that automatically weighs out commodity in predetermined drafts, such as an automatic hopper scale, a packaging scale, and the like, is not an “automatic-indicating” scale.) [2.20]

**automatic temperature or density compensation.** The use of integrated or ancillary equipment to obtain from the output of a volumetric meter an equivalent mass, or an equivalent liquid volume at a normal temperature of  $70^\circ\text{F}$  and absolute pressure of  $14.696 \text{ lb/in}^2$  absolute. [3.34]

## Definitions

**automatic weighing system (AWS).** An automatic weighing system is a weighing device that, in combination with other hardware and/or software components, automatically weighs discrete items and that does not require the intervention of an operator during the weighing process. Examples include, but are not limited to, weigh-labelers and checkweighers. [2.24] (Added 2004)

**automatic zero-setting mechanism (zero-tracking).** Automatic means provided to maintain zero balance indication without the intervention of an operator. [2.20] (Amended 2005)

**automatic zero-setting mechanism (belt-conveyor scale).** A zero setting device that operates automatically without intervention of the operator after the belt has been running empty. [2.21] (Added 2002)

**auxiliary indicator.** Any indicator other than the master weight totalizer that indicates the weight of material determined by the scale. [2.21]

**axle-load scale.** A scale permanently installed in a fixed location, having a load-receiving element specially adapted to determine the combined load of all wheels (1) on a single axle or (2) on a tandem axle of a highway vehicle. [2.20]

## B

**badge.** A metal plate affixed to the meter by the manufacturer showing the manufacturer's name, serial number and model number of the meter, and its rated capacity. [3.33]

**balance, zero-load.** See "zero-load balance." [2.20]

**balance indicator.** A combination of elements, one or both of which will oscillate with respect to the other, for indicating the balance condition of a nonautomatic indicating scale. The combination may consist of two indicating edges, lines, or points, or a single edge, line, or point and a graduated scale. [2.20]

**balancing mechanism.** A mechanism (including a balance ball) that is designed for adjusting a scale to an accurate zero-load balance condition. [2.20]

**base pressure.** The absolute pressure used in defining the gas measurement unit to be used, and is the gauge pressure at the meter plus an agreed atmospheric pressure. [3.33]

**basic time rate.** The charge for time for all intervals except the initial interval. [5.54]

**basic tolerances.** Basic tolerances are those tolerances on underregistration and on overregistration, or in excess and in deficiency, that are established by a particular code for a particular device under all normal tests, whether maintenance or acceptance. Basic tolerances include minimum tolerance values when these are specified. Special tolerances, identified as such and pertaining to special tests, are not basic tolerances. [1.10]

**basic distance rate.** The charge for distance for all intervals except the initial interval. [5.54]

**batching meter.** A device used for the purpose of measuring quantities of water to be used in a batching operation. [3.36]

**beam scale.** One on which the weights of loads of various magnitudes are indicated solely by means of one or more weighbeam bars either alone or in combination with counterpoise weights. [2.20]

**beam.** See "weighbeam." [2.20]

**bell prover.** A calibrated cylindrical metal tank of the annular type with a scale thereon that, in the downward travel in a surrounding tank containing a sealing medium, displaces air through the meter being proved or calibrated. [3.33]

**belt-conveyor.** An endless moving belt for transporting material from place to place. [2.21]

**belt-conveyor scale.** A device that employs a weighing element in contact with a belt to sense the weight of the material being conveyed and the speed (travel) of the material, and integrates these values to produce total delivered weight. [2.21]

**belt-conveyor scale systems area.** The scale area refers to the scale suspension, weigh idlers attached to the scale suspension, 5 approach (-) idlers, and 5 retreat (+) idlers. [2.21] (Added 2001)

**bench scale.** See "counter scale." [2.20]

**billed weight.** The weight used in the computation of the freight, postal, or storage charge, whether actual weight or dimensional weight. [5.58] (Added 2004)

**binary submultiples.** Fractional parts obtained by successively dividing by the number 2. Thus, one-half, one fourth, one-eighth, one-sixteenth, and so on, are binary submultiples. [1.10]

**built-for-purpose device.** Any main device or element which was manufactured with the intent that it be used as, or part of, a weighing or measuring device or system. [1.10] (Added 2003)

## C

**calibration parameter.** Any adjustable parameter that can affect measurement or performance accuracy and, due to its nature, needs to be updated on an ongoing basis to maintain device accuracy, e.g., span adjustments, linearization factors, and coarse zero adjustments. [2.20, 3.30]

(Added 1993)

**car-wash timer.** A timer used in conjunction with a coin-operated device to measure the time during which car-wash water, cleaning solutions, or waxing solutions are dispensed. [5.55]

**center-reading tank.** One so designed that the gauge rod or surface gauge, when properly positioned for use, will be approximately in the vertical axis of the tank, centrally positioned with respect to the tank walls. [4.43]

**cereal grain and oil seeds.** Agricultural commodities including, but not limited to, corn, wheat, oats, barley, flax, rice, sorghum, soybeans, peanuts, dry beans, safflower, sunflower, fescue seed, etc. [5.56]

**chart recorder.** See analog or digital recorder. (Amended 2002)

**check rate.** A rate of flow usually 20 percent of the capacity rate. [3.33]

**checkweighing scale.** One used to verify predetermined weight within prescribed limits. [2.20]

**class of grain.** Hard Red Winter Wheat as distinguished from Hard Red Spring Wheat as distinguished from Soft Red Winter Wheat, etc. [5.56]

**clear interval between graduations.** The distance between adjacent edges of successive graduations in a series of graduations. If the graduations are “staggered,” the interval shall be measured, if necessary, between a graduation and an extension of the adjacent graduation. (Also see “minimum clear interval.”) [1.10]

**cleared.** A taximeter is “cleared” when it is inoperative with respect to all fare indication, when no indication of fare or extras is shown and when all parts are in those positions in which they are designed to be when the vehicle on which the taximeter is installed is not engaged by a passenger. [5.54]

**cold-tire pressure.** The pressure in a tire at ambient temperature. [5.53, 5.54]

**computing type or computing type device.** A device designed to indicate, in addition to weight or measure, the total money value of product weighed or measured, for one of a series of unit prices. [1.10]

**computing scale.** One that indicates the money values of amounts of commodity weighed, at predetermined unit prices, throughout all or part of the weighing range of the scale. [2.20]

**concave curve.** A change in the angle of inclination of a belt conveyor where the center of the curve is above the conveyor. [2.21]

**concentrated load capacity (CLC) (also referred to as Dual Tandem Axle Capacity (DTAC)).** A capacity rating of a vehicle or axle-load scale, specified by the manufacturer, defining the maximum load applied by a group to two axles with a centerline spaced 4 feet apart and an axle width of 8 feet for which the weighbridge is designed. The concentrated load capacity rating is for both test and use. [2.20] (Added 1988) (Amended 1991, 1994 and 2003)

**configuration parameter.** Any adjustable or selectable parameter for a device feature that can affect the accuracy of a transaction or can significantly increase the potential for fraudulent use of the device and, due to its nature, needs to be updated only during device installation or upon replacement of a component, e.g., division value (increment), sensor range, and units of measurement. [2.20, 3.30] (Added 1993)

**consecutive-car test train.** A train consisting of cars weighed on a reference scale, then coupled consecutively and run over the coupled-in-motion railway track scale under test. [2.20] (Added 1990)

**construction-material hopper scale.** A scale adapted to weighing construction materials such as sand, gravel, cement, and hot oil. [2.20]

**contract sale.** A sale where a written agreement exists, prior to the point of sale, in which both buyer and seller have accepted pricing conditions of the sale. Examples include, but are not limited to: e-commerce, club sales, or pre-purchase agreements. Any devices used in the determination of quantity must comply with NIST Handbook 44. [3.30, 3.31, 3.37] (Added 1993) (Amended 2002)

**conventional scale.** If the use of conversion tables is necessary to obtain a moisture content value, the moisture meter indicating scale is called “conventional scale.” The values indicated by the scale are dimensionless. [5.56]

**conversion table.** Any table, graph, slide rule, or other external device used to determine the moisture content from the value indicated by the moisture meter. [5.56]

## Definitions

**correction table.** Any table, graph, slide rule, or other external device used to determine the moisture content from the value indicated by the moisture meter when the indicated value is altered by a parameter not automatically corrected for in the moisture meter (for example, temperature or test weight). [5.56]

**convex curve.** A change in the angle of inclination of a belt conveyor where the center of the curve is below the conveyor. [2.21]

**conveyor stringers.** Support members for the conveyor on which the scale and idlers are mounted. [2.21]

**correct.** A piece of equipment is “correct” when, in addition to being accurate, it meets all applicable specification requirements. Equipment that fails to meet any of the requirements for correct equipment is “incorrect.” (Also see “accurate.”) [1.10]

**counter scale.** One that, by reason of its size, arrangement of parts, and moderate nominal capacity, is adapted for use on a counter or bench. Sometimes called “bench scale.” [2.20]

**counterbalance weight.** One intended for application near the butt of a weighbeam for zero-load balancing purposes. [2.20]

**counterpoise weight.** A slotted or “hanger” weight intended for application near the tip of the weighbeam of a scale having a multiple greater than 1. [2.20]

**coupled-in-motion railroad weighing system.** A device and related installation characteristics consisting of (1) the associated approach trackage, (2) the scale (i.e., the weighing element, the load-receiving element, and the indicating element with its software), and (3) the exit trackage which permit the weighing of railroad cars coupled in motion. [2.20] (Added 1992)

**crane scale.** One with a nominal capacity of 5000 pounds or more designed to weigh loads while they are suspended freely from an overhead, trackmounted crane. [2.20]

**cryogenic liquid-measuring device.** A system including a liquid-measuring element designed to measure and deliver cryogenic liquids in the liquid state. [3.34] (Amended 1986 and 2003)

**cryogenic liquids.** Fluids whose normal boiling point is below 120 kelvin (-243 °F). [3.34]

**cubic foot, standard.** That quantity of gas that occupies a volume of one cubic foot when under a pressure of 14.73 lb/in<sup>2</sup> absolute and at a temperature of 60 °F. [3.33]

**cubic foot, metered.** That quantity of gas that occupies one cubic foot when under pressure and temperature conditions existing in the meter. [3.33]

**cubic-foot bottle.** A metal bottle open at the lower end and so supported that it may be easily raised or lowered in a tank that contains a sealing medium. With the level of the sealing medium properly adjusted, the bottle, when lowered, will displace exactly one cubic foot of air upon coming to rest on the bottom of the tank. The marks on the bottle defining the cubic foot are the bottom of the lower neck and the gauge mark that partially surrounds the gauge glass in the upper neck. [3.33]

**cubic foot, gas.** The amount of a cryogenic liquid in the gaseous state at a temperature of 70 °F and under a pressure of 14.696 lb/in<sup>2</sup> absolute that occupies one cubic foot. (See NTP.) [3.34]

## D

**“d”, dimension division value.** The smallest increment that the device displays for any axis and length of object in that axis. [5.58] (Added 2004)

**D<sub>max</sub> (maximum load of the measuring range).** Largest value of a quantity (mass) which is applied to a load cell during test or use. This value shall not be greater than E<sub>max</sub>. [2.20] (Added 2005))

**dairy-product-test scale.** A scale used in determining the moisture content of butter and/or cheese or in determining the butterfat content of milk, cream, or butter. [2.20]

**decreasing-load test.** A test for automatic-indicating scales only, wherein the performance of the scale is tested as the load is reduced. [2.20] (Amended 1987)

**deficiency.** See “excess and deficiency.” [1.10]

**digital type.** A system of indication or recording of the selector type or one that advances intermittently in which all values are presented digitally, or in numbers. In a digital indicating or recording element, or in digital representation, there are no graduations. [1.10]

**dimensional weight (or dim, weight).** A value computed by dividing the object’s volume by a conversion factor; it may be used for the calculation of charges when the value is greater than the actual weight. [5.58] (Added 2004)

**direct sale.** A sale in which both parties in the transaction are present when the quantity is being determined. An unattended automated or customer-operated weighing or measuring system is considered to represent the device/business owner in transactions involving an unattended device. [1.10] (Amended 1993)

**discharge line.** A rigid pipe connected to the outlet of a measuring device. [3.30] (Added 1987)



**discharge hose.** A flexible hose connected to the discharge outlet of a measuring device or its discharge line. [3.30]  
(Added 1987)

**discrimination (of an automatic-indicating scale).** The value of the test load on the load-receiving element of the scale that will produce a specified minimum change of the indicated or recorded value on the scale. [2.20]

**dispenser.** See motor-fuel device. [3.30]

**distributed-car test train.** A train consisting of cars weighed first on a reference scale, cars coupled consecutively in groups at different locations within the train, then run over the coupled-in-motion railway track scale under test. The groups are typically placed at the front, middle, and rear of the train. [2.20]  
(Added 1990)

**dry-hose type.** A type of device in which it is intended that the discharge hose be completely drained following the mechanical operations involved in each delivery. (See “dry hose.”) [3.30, 3.34]

**dry hose.** A discharge hose intended to be completely drained at the end of each delivery of product. (See “dry-hose type.”) [3.30, 3.31]  
(Amended 2002)

**dynamic monorail weighing system.** A weighing system which employs hardware or software to compensate for dynamic effects from the load or the system that do not exist in a static weighing, in order to provide a stable indication. Dynamic factors may include shock or impact loading, system vibrations, oscillations, etc., and can occur even when the load is not moving across the load receiving element. [2.20]  
(Added 1999)

## E

**$e_{\min}$  (minimum verification scale division).** The smallest scale division for which a weighing element complies with the applicable requirements. [2.20, 2.21, 2.24]  
(Added 1997)

**$E_{\max}$  (maximum capacity).** Largest value of a quantity (mass) which may be applied to a load cell without exceeding the mpe. [2.20]  
(Added 2005)

**electronic link.** An electronic connection between the weighing/load receiving or other sensing element and indicating element where one recognizes the other and neither can be replaced without calibration. [2.20]  
(Added 2001)

**element.** A portion of a weighing or measuring device or system which performs a specific function and can be separated, evaluated separately, and is subject to specified full or partial error limits.  
(Added 2002)

**equal-arm scale.** A scale having only a single lever with equal arms (that is, with a multiple of 1), equipped with two similar or dissimilar load-receiving elements (pan, plate, platter, scoop, or the like), one intended to receive material being weighed and the other intended to receive weights. There may or may not be a weighbeam. [2.20]

**event counter.** A nonresettable counter that increments once each time the mode that permits changes to sealable parameters is entered and one or more changes are made to sealable calibration or configuration parameters of a device. [2.20, 3.30]  
(Added 1993)

**event logger.** A form of audit trail containing a series of records where each record contains the number from the event counter corresponding to the change to a sealable parameter, the identification of the parameter that was changed, the time and date when the parameter was changed, and the new value of the parameter. [2.20, 3.30]  
(Added 1993)

**excess and deficiency.** When an instrument or device is of such a character that it has a value of its own that can be determined, its error is said to be “in excess” or “in deficiency,” depending upon whether its actual value is, respectively, greater or less than its nominal value. (See “nominal.”) Examples of instruments having errors “in excess” are: a linear measure that is too long; a liquid measure that is too large; and a weight that is “heavy.” Examples of instruments having errors “in deficiency” are: a lubricating-oil bottle that is too small; a vehicle tank compartment that is too small; and a weight that is “light.” [1.10]

**extras.** Charges to be paid by a passenger in addition to the fare, including any charge at a flat rate for the transportation of passengers in excess of a stated number and any charge for the transportation of baggage. [5.54]

## F

**face.** That side of a taximeter on which passenger charges are indicated. [5.54]

**face.** That portion of a computing-type pump or dispenser which the actual computation of price per unit, delivered quantity, and total sale price. In the case of some electronic displays, this may not be an integral part of the pump or dispenser. [3.30]  
(Added 1987)

## Definitions

**fare.** That portion of the charge for the hire of a vehicle that is automatically calculated by a taximeter through the operation of the distance and/or time mechanism. [5.54]

**farm milk tank.** A unit for measuring milk or other fluid dairy product, comprising a combination of (1) a stationary or portable tank, whether or not equipped with means for cooling its contents, (2) means for reading the level of liquid in the tank, such as a removable gauge rod or a surface gauge, and (3) a chart for converting level-of-liquid readings to volume; or such a unit in which readings are made on gauge rod or surface gauge directly in terms of volume. Each compartment of a subdivided tank shall, for purposes of this code, be construed to be a “farm milk tank.” [4.43]

**feeding mechanism.** The means for depositing material to be weighed on the belt conveyor. [2.21]

**fifth wheel.** A commercially-available distance-measuring device which, after calibration, is recommended for use as a field transfer standard for testing the accuracy of taximeters and odometers on rented vehicles. [5.53, 5.54]

**fifth-wheel test.** A distance test similar to a road test, except that the distance traveled by the vehicle under test is determined by a mechanism known as a “fifth-wheel” that is attached to the vehicle and that independently measures and indicates the distance. [5.53, 5.54]

**flag.** A plate at the end of the lever arm or similar part by which the operating condition of a taximeter is controlled and indicated. [5.54]

**fractional bar.** A weighbeam bar of relatively small capacity for obtaining indications intermediate between notches or graduations on a main or tare bar. [2.20]

**ft<sup>3</sup>/h.** Cubic feet per hour. [3.33]

## G

**gasoline gallon equivalent (GGE).** Gasoline gallon equivalent (GGE) means 5.660 pounds of natural gas. [3.37] (Added 1994)

**gasoline liter equivalent (GLE).** Gasoline liter equivalent (GLE) means 0.678 kilograms of natural gas. [3.37] (Added 1994)

**gauge pressure.** The difference between the pressure at the meter and the atmospheric pressure (psi). [3.33]

**gauge rod.** A graduated, “dip-stick” type of measuring rod designed to be partially immersed in the liquid and to be read at the point where the liquid surface crosses the rod. [4.43]

**gauging.** The process of determining and assigning volumetric values to specific graduations on the gauge or gauge rod that serve as the basis for the tank volume chart. [4.43]

**graduated interval.** The distance from the center of one graduation to the center of the next graduation in a series of graduations. (Also see “value of minimum graduated interval.”) [1.10]

**graduation.** A defining line, or one of the lines defining the subdivisions of a graduated series. The term includes such special forms as raised or indented or scored reference “lines” and special characters such as dots. (Also see “main graduation” and “subordinate graduation.”) [1.10]

**grain hopper scale.** One adapted to the weighing of individual loads of varying amounts of grain. [2.20]

**grain moisture meter.** Any device indicating either directly or through conversion tables and/or correction tables the moisture content of cereal grains and oil seeds. Also termed “moisture meter.” [5.56]

**grain sample.** That portion of grain or seed taken from a bulk of grain or seed to be bought or sold and used to determine the moisture content of the bulk. [5.56]

**grain-test scale.** A scale adapted to weighing grain samples used in determining moisture content, dockage, weight per unit volume, etc. [2.20, 5.56]

**gravity discharge.** A type of device designed for discharge by gravity. [3.30, 3.31] (Amended 2002)]

## H

**head pulley.** The pulley at the discharge end of the belt conveyor. The power drive to drive the belt is generally applied to the head pulley. [2.21]

**hired.** A taximeter is “hired” when it is operative with respect to all applicable indications of fare or extras. The indications of fare include time and distance where applicable unless qualified by another indication of “Time Not Recording” or an equivalent expression. [5.54]

**hopper scale.** A scale designed for weighing bulk commodities whose load-receiving element is a tank, box, or hopper mounted on a weighing element. (Also, see “automatic hopper scale,” “grain hopper scale,” and “construction-material hopper scale.”) [2.20]

## I

**idler space.** The center-to-center distance between idler rollers measured parallel to the belt. [2.21]

**minimum totaled load.** The least amount of weight for which the scale is considered to be performing accurately. [2.21]

**minimum tolerances.** Minimum tolerances are the smallest tolerance values that can be applied to a scale. Minimum tolerances are determined on the basis of the value of the minimum graduated interval or the nominal or reading face capacity of the scale. (See also definition for basic tolerances.) [2.20]

**minimum clear interval.** The shortest distance between adjacent graduations when the graduations are not parallel. (Also see “clear interval.”) [3.30]

**minimum delivery.** The least amount of weight that is to be delivered as a single weighment by a belt-conveyor scale system in normal use. [2.21]

**moisture content (wet basis).** The mass of water in a grain or seed sample (determined by the reference method) divided by the mass of the grain or seed sample expressed as a percentage (%). [5.56]

**money-operated type.** A device designed to be released for service by the insertion of money, or to be actuated by the insertion of money to make deliveries of product. [1.10]

**money drop.** An increment of fare indication. The “initial money drop” is the first increment of fare indication following activation of the taximeter. [5.54]

**motor-fuel device or motor-fuel dispenser or retail motor-fuel device.** A device designed for the measurement and delivery of liquids used as fuel for internal-combustion engines. The term “motor-fuel dispenser” means the same as “motor-fuel device”; the term “retail motor-fuel device” applies to a unique category of device (see definition of “retail device”). [3.30]

**motor fuel.** Liquid used as fuel for internal-combustion engines. [3.30]

**multi-interval scale.** A scale having one weighing range which is divided into partial weighing ranges [segments(s)], each with different scale intervals, with the weighing range [segment(s)] determined automatically according to the load applied, both on increasing and decreasing loads. [2.20] (Added 1995) (Amended 2005)

**multi-jet water meter.** A water meter in which the moving element takes the form of a multiblade rotor mounted on a vertical spindle within a cylindrical measuring chamber. The liquid enters the measuring chamber through several tangential orifices around the circumference and leaves the measuring chamber through another set of tangential orifices placed at a

different level in the measuring chamber. These meters register by recording the revolutions of a rotor set in motion by the force of flowing water striking the blades. [3.36] (Added 2003)

**multi-revolution scale.** An automatic-indicating scale having a nominal capacity that is a multiple of the reading-face capacity and that is achieved by more than one complete revolution of the indicator. [2.20]

**multiple cell application load cell.** A load cell intended for use in a weighing system which incorporates more than one load cell. A multiple cell application load cell is designated with the letter “M” or the term “Multiple.” (See also “single cell application load cell.”) [2.20] (Added 1999)

**multiple of a scale.** In general, the multiplying power of the entire system of levers or other basic weighing elements. (On a beam scale, the multiple of the scale is the number of pounds on the load-receiving element that will be counterpoised by 1 pound applied to the tip pivot of the weighbeam.) [2.20]

**multiple range scale.** A scale having two or more weighing ranges with different maximum capacities and different scale intervals for the same load receptor, each range extending from zero to its maximum capacity. [2.20] (Added 1995)

**multiple-tariff taximeter.** One that may be set to calculate fares at any one of two or more rates. [5.54]

**multiple.** An integral multiple; that is, a result obtained by multiplying by a whole number. (Also see “multiple of a scale.”) [1.10]

## N

**natural gas.** A gaseous fuel, composed primarily of methane, that is suitable for compression and dispensing into a fuel storage container(s) for use as an engine fuel. [3.37] (Added 1994)

**NBP.** Normal boiling point of a cryogenic liquid at 14.696 lb/in<sup>2</sup> absolute. [3.34]

**n<sub>max</sub> (maximum number of scale divisions).** The maximum number of scale divisions for which a main element or load cell complies with the applicable requirements. The maximum number of scale divisions permitted for an installation is limited to the lowest n<sub>max</sub> marked on the scale indicating element, weighing element, or load cell. [2.20, 2.21, 2.24] (Added 1997)

## Definitions

**no-load reference value.** A positive weight value indication with no load in the load-receiving element (hopper) of the scale. (Used with automatic bulk-weighing systems and certain single draft, manually-operated receiving hopper scales installed below grade and used to receive grain.) [2.20]

**nominal.** Refers to “intended” or “named” or “stated,” as opposed to “actual.” For example, the “nominal” value of something is the value that it is supposed or intended to have, the value that it is claimed or stated to have, or the value by which it is commonly known. Thus, “1-pound weight,” “1-gallon measure,” “1-yard indication,” and “500-pound scale” are statements of nominal values; corresponding actual values may be greater or lesser. (See nominal capacity of a scale.) [1.10]

**nominal capacity.** The nominal capacity of a scale is (a) the largest weight indication that can be obtained by the use of all of the reading or recording elements in combination, including the amount represented by any removable weights furnished or ordinarily furnished with the scale, but excluding the amount represented by any extra removable weights not ordinarily furnished with the scale, and excluding also the capacity of any auxiliary weighing attachment not contemplated by the original design of the scale, and excluding any fractional bar with a capacity less than 2-1/2 percent of the sum of the capacities of the remaining reading elements, or (b) the capacity marked on the scale by the manufacturer, whichever is less. (Also see “nominal capacity, batching scale”; “nominal capacity, hopper scale.”) [2.20]

**nominal capacity, batching scale.** The nominal capacity of a batching scale is the capacity as marked on the scale by the scale manufacturer, or the sum of the products of the volume of each of the individual hoppers, in terms of cubic feet, times the weight per cubic foot of the heaviest material weighed in each hopper, whichever is less. [2.20]

**nominal capacity, hopper scale.** The nominal capacity of a hopper scale is the capacity as marked on the scale by the scale manufacturer, or the product of the volume of the hopper in bushels or cubic feet times the maximum weight per bushel or cubic foot, as the case may be, of the commodity normally weighed, whichever is less. [2.20]

**non-automatic checkweigher.** A weighing instrument that requires the intervention of an operator during the weighing process, used to subdivide items of different weights into one or more subgroups, such as identifying packages that have acceptable or unacceptable fill levels according to the value of the difference between their weight and a pre-determined set point. [2.24]

**Notes:** Determining the weighing result includes any intelligent action of the operator that affects the result, such as deciding and taking an action when an indication is stable or adjusting the weight of the weighed load.

Deciding that the weighing result is acceptable means making a decision regarding the acceptance of each weighing result on observing the indication or releasing a print out. The weighing process allows the operator to take an action which influences the weighing result in the case where the weighing result is not acceptable.

(Added 2004)

**non-automatic weighing instrument.** A weighing instrument or system that requires the intervention of an operator during the weighing process to determine the weighing result or to decide that it is acceptable. [2.20, 2.24]

**Notes:** Determining the weighing result includes any intelligent action of the operator that affects the result, such as deciding and taking an action when an indication is stable or adjusting the weight of the weighed load.

Deciding that the weighing result is acceptable means making a decision regarding the acceptance of each weighing result on observing the indication or releasing a print out. The weighing process allows the operator to take an action which influences the weighing result in the case where the weighing result is not acceptable.

(Added 2004) (Amended 2005)

**nonretroactive.** “Nonretroactive” requirements are enforceable after the effective date for:

1. devices manufactured within a State after the effective date;
2. both new and used devices brought into a State after the effective date; and
3. devices used in noncommercial applications which are placed into commercial use after the effective date.

Nonretroactive requirements are not enforceable with respect to devices that are in commercial service in the State as of the effective date or to new equipment in the stock of a manufacturer or a dealer in the State as of the effective date. (*Nonretroactive requirements are printed in italic type.*) [1.10]

(Amended 1989)

**nose-iron.** A slide-mounted, manually-adjustable pivot assembly for changing the multiple of a lever. [2.20]

**notes.** A section included in each of a number of codes, containing instructions, pertinent directives, and other specific information pertaining to the testing of devices. Notes are primarily directed to weights and measures officials. [1.10]

**NTP density and volume correction factor.** A correction factor used to adjust the liquid volume of a cryogenic product at the time of measurement to the gas equivalent at NTP. [3.34]

**NTP.** Normal temperature of 21 °C (70 °F) and pressure of 101.325 kPa (14.696 lb/in<sup>2</sup> absolute) respectively. [3.34]

## O

**odometer.** A device that automatically indicates the total distance traveled by a vehicle. For the purpose of this code, this definition includes hub odometers, cable-driven odometers, and the distance-indicating or odometer portions of “speedometer” assemblies for automotive vehicles. [5.53]

**official grain samples.** Grain or seed used by the official as the official transfer standard from the reference standard method to test the accuracy and precision of grain moisture meters. [5.56]

**official with statutory authority.** The representative of the jurisdiction(s) responsible for certifying the accuracy of the device. [2.20, 2.21, 2.22]  
(Added 1991)

**operating tire pressure.** The pressure in a tire immediately after a vehicle has been driven for at least 5 miles or 8 kilometers. [5.53, 5.54]

**over-and-under indicator.** An automatic-indicating element incorporated in or attached to a scale and comprising an indicator and a graduated scale with a central or intermediate “zero” graduation and a limited range of weight graduations on either side of the zero graduation, for indicating weights greater than and less than the predetermined values for which other elements of the scale may be set. (A scale having an over-and-under indicator is classed as an automatic-indicating scale.) [2.20]

**overregistration and underregistration.** When an instrument or device is of such a character that it indicates or records values as a result of its operation, its error is said to be in the direction of overregistration or underregistration, depending upon whether the indications are, respectively, greater or less than they should be. Examples of devices having errors of “overregistration” are: a fabric-measuring device that indicates more than the true length of material passed through it; and a liquid-measuring device that indicates more than the true amount of the liquid delivered by the device. Examples of devices having errors of “under-registration” are: a meter that indicates less than the true amount of product that it delivers; and a weighing scale that indicates or records less than the true weight of the applied load. [1.10]

## P

**parallax.** The apparent displacement, or apparent difference in height or width, of a graduation or other object with respect to a fixed reference, as viewed from different points. [1.10]

**parking meter.** A coin-operated device for measuring parking time for vehicles. [5.55]

**passenger vehicles.** Vehicles such as automobiles, recreational vehicles, limousines, ambulances, and hearses. [5.53]

**performance requirements.** Performance requirements include all tolerance requirements and, in the case of nonautomatic-indicating scales, sensitivity requirements (SR). (See definitions for “tolerance” and “sensitivity requirement”.) [1.10]

**point-of-sale system.** An assembly of elements including a weighing or measuring element, an indicating element, and a recording element (and may also be equipped with a “scanner”) used to complete a direct sales transaction. [2.20, 3.30, 3.32, 3.37]  
(Added 1986) (Amended 1997)

**poise.** A movable weight mounted upon or suspended from a weighbeam bar and used in combination with graduations, and frequently with notches, on the bar to indicate weight values. (A suspended poise is commonly called a “hanging poise”.) [2.20]

**postal scale.** A scale (usually a computing scale) designed for use to determine shipping weight or delivery charges for letters or parcels delivered by the U.S. Postal Service or private shipping companies. A weight classifier may be used as a postal scale. [2.20]  
(Added 1987)

**prepackaging scale.** A computing scale specially designed for putting up packages of random weights in advance of sale. [2.20]

**prescription scale.** A scale or balance adapted to weighing the ingredients of medicinal and other formulas prescribed by physicians and others and used or intended to be used in the ordinary trade of pharmacists. [2.20]

**pressure type (device).** A type of device designed for operation with the liquid under artificially produced pressure. [3.30]

**primary indicating or recording elements.** The term “primary” is applied to those principal indicating (visual) elements and recording elements that are designed to, or may, be used by the operator in the normal commercial use of a device. The term “primary” is applied to any element or elements that may be the determining factor in arriving at the sale representation when the device is used commercially. (Examples of primary elements are the visual indicators for meters or scales not equipped with ticket printers or other

## Definitions

recording elements and both the visual indicators and the ticket printers or other recording elements for meters or scales so equipped.) The term “primary” is not applied to such auxiliary elements as, for example, the totalizing register or predetermined-stop mechanism on a meter or the means for producing a running record of successive weighing operations, these elements being supplementary to those that are the determining factors in sales representations of individual deliveries or weights. (See “indicating element” and “recording element”.) [1.10]

**prover oil.** A light oil of low vapor pressure used as a sealing medium in bell provers, cubic-foot bottles, and portable cubic-foot standards. [3.33]

**proving indicator.** The test hand or pointer of the proving or leak-test circle on the meter register or index. [3.33]

**prover method.** A method of testing milk tanks that utilizes approved volumetric prover(s) for measuring the test liquid removed from or introduced into the tank. [4.43]  
(Amended 2002)

## R

**“r” factor.** A computation for determining the suitability of a vehicle scale for weighing vehicles with varying axle configurations. The factor was derived by dividing the weights in FHWA Federal Highway Bridge Gross Weight Table B by 34 000 lbs. (The resultant factors contained in Table UR.3.2.1.) [2.20]  
(Added 1997)

**radio frequency interference (RFI).** Radio frequency interference is a type of electrical disturbance that, when introduced into electronic and electrical circuits, may cause deviations from the normally expected performance. [1.10]

**random error(s).** The sample standard deviation of the error (indicated values) for a number of consecutive automatic weighings of a load, or loads, passed over the load receptor, shall be expressed mathematically as: [2.24]

$$s = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-1} \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}$$

or

$$s = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-1} \left( \sum x_i^2 - \frac{(\sum x_i)^2}{n} \right)}$$

where:

x = error of a load indication  
n = the number of loads

(Added 2004)

**ranges, weight.** See “weight ranges.” [2.20]

**rated scale capacity.** That value representing the weight that can be delivered by the device in one hour. [2.21]

**rated capacity.** The rate of flow in cubic meters per hour of a hydrocarbon gas vapor-measuring device as recommended by the manufacturer. This rate of flow should cause a pressure drop across the meter not exceeding 1/2-inch water column. [3.33]

**ratio test.** A test to determine the accuracy with which the actual multiple of a scale agrees with its designed multiple. This test is used for scales employing counterpoise weights and is made with standard test weights substituted in all cases for the weights commercially used on the scale. (It is appropriate to use this test for some scales not employing counterpoise weights.) [2.20]

**reading-face capacity.** The largest value that may be indicated on the reading face, exclusive of the application or addition of any supplemental or accessory elements. [1.10]

**reading face.** That portion of an automatic-indicating weighing or measuring device that gives a visible indication of the quantity weighed or measured. A reading face may include an indicator and a series of graduations or may present values digitally, and may also provide money-value indications. [1.10, 2.20]  
(Amended 2005)

**recorded representation.** The printed, embossed, or other representation that is recorded as a quantity by a weighing or measuring device. [1.10]

**recording element.** An element incorporated in a weighing or measuring device by means of which its performance relative to quantity or money value is permanently recorded on a tape, ticket, card, or the like, in the form of a printed, stamped, punched, or perforated representation. [1.10, 2.21]

**recording scale.** One on which the weights of applied loads may be permanently recorded on a tape, ticket, card, or the like in the form of a printed, stamped, punched, or perforated representation. [2.20]

**reference weight car.** A railroad car weighed on a scale for temporary use as a mass standard over a short period of time (typically, the time required to test one scale) as part of a test train.

Note: A test weight car that is representative of the types of cars typically weighed on the scale under test may be used wherever reference weight cars are specified. [2.20]  
(Added 1991)

**remanufactured device.**

[NOT ADOPTED]

**zero-load reference (belt-conveyor scales).** A zero-load reference value represents no load on a moving conveyor belt. This value can be either; a number representing the electronic load cell output, a percentage of full scale capacity, or other reference value that accurately represents the no load condition of a moving conveyor belt. The no load reference value can only be updated after the completion of a zero load test. [2.21] (Added 2002)

**zero-setting mechanism.** Means provided to attain a zero balance indication with no load on the load-receiving element. Three types of these mechanisms are: [2.20]

**automatic zero-setting mechanism (zero-tracking).** Automatic means provided to maintain zero balance indication without the intervention of an operator. [2.20] (Amended 2005)

**manual zero-setting mechanism.** Nonautomatic means provided to attain a zero balance indication by the direct operation of a control. [2.20]

**semiautomatic zero-setting mechanism.** Automatic means provided to attain a direct zero balance indication requiring a single initiation by an operator. [2.20]

**zero-setting mechanism (belt-conveyor scale).** A mechanism enabling zero totalization to be obtained over a whole number of belt revolutions. [2.21, 2.23] (Added 2002)

**zero-tracking.** See “automatic zero-setting mechanism.” [2.20] (Added 2005)

**zone of uncertainty.** The zone between adjacent increments on a digital device in which the value of either of the adjacent increments may be displayed. [2.20]

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## Appendix A

### Fundamental Considerations Associated with the Enforcement of Handbook 44 Codes

#### 1. Uniformity of Requirements

**1.1. National Conference Codes.** - Weights and measures jurisdictions are urged to promulgate and adhere to the National Conference codes, to the end that uniform requirements may be in force throughout the country. This action is recommended even though a particular jurisdiction does not wholly agree with every detail of the National Conference codes. Uniformity of specifications and tolerances is an important factor in the manufacture of commercial equipment. Deviations from standard designs to meet the special demands of individual weights and measures jurisdictions are expensive, and any increase in costs of manufacture is, of course, passed on to the purchaser of equipment. On the other hand, if designs can be standardized by the manufacturer to conform to a single set of technical requirements, production costs can be kept down, to the ultimate advantage of the general public. Moreover, it seems entirely logical that equipment that is suitable for commercial use in the "specification" States should be equally suitable for such use in other States.

Another consideration supporting the recommendation for uniformity of requirements among weights and measures jurisdictions is the cumulative and regenerative effect of the widespread enforcement of a single standard of design and performance. The enforcement effort in each jurisdiction can then reinforce the enforcement effort in all other jurisdictions. More effective regulatory control can be realized with less individual effort under a system of uniform requirements than under a system in which even minor deviations from standard practice are introduced by independent State action.

Since the National Conference codes represent the majority opinion of a large and representative group of experienced regulatory officials, and since these codes are recognized by equipment manufacturers as their basic guide in the design and construction of commercial weighing and measuring equipment, the acceptance and promulgation of these codes by each State are strongly recommended.

**1.2. Form of Promulgation.** - A convenient and very effective form of promulgation already successfully used in a considerable number of States is promulgation by citation of National Institute of Standards and Technology Handbook 44. It is especially helpful when the citation is so made that, as amendments are adopted from time to time by the National

Conference on Weights and Measures, these automatically go into effect in the State regulatory authority. For example, the following form of promulgation has been used successfully and is recommended for consideration:

The specifications, tolerances, and other technical requirements for weighing and measuring devices as recommended by the National Conference on Weights and Measures and published in the National Institute of Standards and Technology Handbook 44, Specifications, Tolerances, and Other Technical Requirements for Weighing and Measuring Devices, and supplements thereto or revisions thereof, shall apply to commercial weighing and measuring devices in the State.

In some States it is preferred to base technical requirements upon specific action of the State legislature rather than upon an act of promulgation by a State officer. The advantages cited above may be obtained and may yet be surrounded by adequate safeguards to insure proper freedom of action by the State enforcing officer if the legislature adopts the National Conference requirements by language somewhat as follows:

The specifications, tolerances, and other technical requirements for weighing and measuring devices as recommended by the National Conference on Weights and Measures shall be the specifications, tolerances, and other technical requirements for weighing and measuring devices of the State except insofar as specifically modified, amended, or rejected by a regulation issued by the State (insert title of enforcing officer).

#### 2. Tolerances for Commercial Equipment

**2.1. Acceptance and Maintenance Tolerances.** - The official tolerances prescribed by a weights and measures jurisdiction for commercial equipment are the limits of inaccuracy officially permissible within that jurisdiction. It is recognized that errorless value or performance of mechanical equipment is unattainable. Tolerances are established, therefore, to fix the range of inaccuracy within which equipment will be officially approved for commercial use. In the case of classes of equipment on which the magnitude of the errors of value or performance may be expected to change as a result of use, two sets of tolerances are established: acceptance tolerances and maintenance tolerances.

## Fundamental Considerations

Acceptance tolerances are applied to new or newly reconditioned or adjusted equipment, and are smaller than (usually one-half of) the maintenance tolerances. Maintenance tolerances thus provide an additional range of inaccuracy within which equipment will be approved on subsequent tests, permitting a limited amount of deterioration before the equipment will be officially rejected for inaccuracy and before reconditioning or adjustment will be required. In effect, there is assured a reasonable period of use for equipment after it is placed in service before reconditioning will be officially required. The foregoing comments do not apply, of course, when only a single set of tolerance values is established, as is the case with equipment such as glass milk bottles and graduates, which maintain their original accuracy regardless of use, and measure-containers, which are used only once.

**2.2. Theory of Tolerances.** - Tolerance values are so fixed that the permissible errors are sufficiently small that there is no serious injury to either the buyer or the seller of commodities, yet not so small as to make manufacturing or maintenance costs of equipment disproportionately high. Obviously, the manufacturer must know what tolerances his equipment is required to meet, so that he can manufacture economically. His equipment must be good enough to satisfy commercial needs, but should not be subject to such stringent tolerance values as to make it unreasonably costly, complicated, or delicate.

**2.3. Tolerances and Adjustments.** - Tolerances are primarily accuracy criteria for use by the regulatory official. However, when equipment is being adjusted for accuracy, either initially or following repair or official rejection, the objective should be to adjust as closely as practicable to zero error. Equipment owners should not take advantage of tolerances by deliberately adjusting their equipment to have a value, or to give performance, at or close to the tolerance limit. Nor should the repair or service personnel bring equipment merely within tolerance range when it is possible to adjust closer to zero error.<sup>1</sup>

## 3. Testing Apparatus

**3.1. Adequacy.**<sup>2</sup> - Tests can be made properly only if, among other things, adequate testing apparatus is available. Testing apparatus may be considered adequate only when it is properly designed for its intended use, when it is so constructed that it will retain its characteristics for a reasonable period under conditions of normal use, when it is available in denominations appropriate for a proper determination of the value or performance of the commercial equipment under test, and when it is accurately calibrated.  
(Amended 2005)

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<sup>1</sup> See General Code, Section 1.10; User Requirement G-UR.4.3.

**3.2. Tolerances for Standards.** - Except for work of relatively high precision, it is recommended that the accuracy of standards used in testing commercial weighing and measuring equipment be so established and maintained so that the use of corrections is not necessary. When the standard is used without correction, its combined error and uncertainty must be less than one-third of the applicable device tolerance.

Device testing is complicated to some degree when corrections to standards are applied. When using a correction for a standard, the uncertainty associated with the corrected value must be less than one-third of the applicable device tolerance. The reason for this requirement is to give the device being tested as nearly as practicable the full benefit of its own tolerance.

(Amended 2005)

**3.3. Accuracy of Standards.** - Prior to the official use of testing apparatus, its accuracy should invariably be verified. Field standards should be calibrated as often as circumstances require. By their nature, metal volumetric field standards are more susceptible to damage in handling than are standards of some other types. A field standard should be calibrated whenever damage is known or suspected to have occurred or significant repairs have been made. In addition, field standards, particularly volumetric standards, should be calibrated with sufficient frequency to affirm their continued accuracy, so that the official may always be in an unassailable position with respect to the accuracy of his testing apparatus. Secondary field standards, such as special fabric testing tapes, should be verified much more frequently than such basic standards as steel tapes or volumetric provers to demonstrate their constancy of value or performance.

Accurate and dependable results cannot be obtained with faulty or inadequate field standards. If either the service person or official is poorly equipped, their results cannot be expected to check consistently. Disagreements can be avoided and the servicing of commercial equipment can be expedited and improved if service persons and officials give equal attention to the adequacy and maintenance of their testing apparatus.

(Amended 2005)

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<sup>2</sup> Recommendations regarding the specifications and tolerances for suitable field standards may be obtained from the Weights and Measures Division of the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Standards will meet the specifications of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Handbook 105-Series standards (or other suitable and designated standards). This section shall not preclude the use of additional field standards and/or equipment, as approved by the Director, for uniform evaluation of device performance.

(Amended 2005)

## CHAPTER 4. REGISTRATION OF SERVICE AGENCIES FOR COMMERCIAL WEIGHING AND MEASURING DEVICES

**4080. Application.** This chapter applies to any person performing duties as a service agency or service agent.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 12027, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 12531, Business and Professions Code.

### **4081. Registration of Service Agencies and Service Agents Required.**

- (a) Each service agency shall forward to the Department, with the appropriate registration fee (Business and Professions Code Section 12535), the name and license number of a service agent within 30 days of hiring by the service agency.
- (b) The registration of a service agent shall expire upon termination of employment with the service agency.
- (c) Each service agency shall notify the Department within 30 days of the termination of a service agent.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 12027, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 12531 and 12532, Business and Professions Code.

### **4082. Fees.**

- (a) Any fee not paid when due, or sent by mail and post-marked five days or more after the due date, is overdue.
- (b) To any fee that is overdue and paid within 30 days of the due date, a penalty equal to 30 percent of the amount of the original fee shall be added.
- (c) To any fee paid more than 30 days after the due date, a penalty equal to 50 percent of the amount of the original fee shall be added.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 12027, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 12535, Business and Professions Code.

### **4083. Examinations/Licenses.**

- (a) **License Application:** Applicants for a service agent license must provide their name, address, and proof of identity by means of a picture identification. At the time of examination, applicants shall pay an examination fee of \$35. Applicants renewing an existing license shall also provide the current license number.

- (b) **Examination Procedure:** Written examinations will be administered by a county weights and measures office or the Division of Measurement Standards. The examination shall be administered according to instructions issued by the Division of Measurement Standards "Administration of Service Agent Examination" (Est. 8/00), which is incorporated by reference. Applicants will be advised of the results on the day of the examination. The proctor and applicant shall certify under penalty of perjury that the examination was given in accordance with the procedures specified.

- (c) **Qualification for a License:** An applicant must receive a minimum score of 70 percent to qualify for a service agent license. Successful applicants will be provided with a service agent license at that time. Except as provided for in subsection (g), such license shall be valid for a period of five years from date of issue.

- (d) **Retention and Notification:** Examination information will be retained in the county or state office where administered for a period of five years. County offices will provide to the Division of Measurement Standards within 30 days the names of individuals to whom service agent licenses have been issued.

- (e) **Failure and Reexamination:** Applicants failing to receive a passing score may schedule an appointment to be reexamined. The fee specified in subsection (a) shall be paid each time the examination is taken. Reexaminations are subject to all the above conditions.

- (f) **Replacement License:** A lost or manipulated license may only be replaced by the Division of Measurement Standards. Before a replacement license is issued, the licensee must provide a written request including the following information: the name as it appeared on the original license, the licensee's signature and current address, and a fee of \$10. If a licensee satisfies these requirements, a replacement license will be issued.

- (g) **License Renewal:** To maintain a service agent license, applicants may take the examination on or up to 90 days before the expiration date of their current license. Successful applicants will receive a five year extension of the license period.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 12027, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 12540, Business and Professions Code.

## Registered Service Agencies

**4084. Authority for Service Agency to Place a Device into Service.** Pursuant to Business and Professions Code Sections 12509 and 12532(d), a service agency may perform any of the following:

- (a) place a correct device into service,
- (b) remove an “out-of-order” notice to perform the service, and must replace the notice if the device can not be corrected, or
- (c) remove an “out-of-order” notice from a corrected device and place it into service.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 12027, 12532(b) and 12509, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 12531 and 12532, Business and Professions Code.

### **4085. Responsibility of a Service Agency.**

- (a) Each service agency shall be responsible for compliance with the following:
  - (1) **Repairing or Placing Devices into Service.** - Each service agency shall place into service, upon installation or following repair, a device in such a manner that it meets all the requirements of Division 5 of the California Business and Professions Code and all the requirements of the California Code of Regulations, Title 4, Division 9. Weighing or measuring devices which are not “correct”, as defined by Section 12500(c) of the Business and Professions Code, shall not be placed into service.
  - (2) **Notice to County Sealer of Repairing or Placing of Device into Service by Service Agency.** - Each service agency shall notify the county sealer of the repairing or placing in service of any device. The notice shall be in writing, and transmitted to the county sealer within the 24-hour period following the repair, except as provided by Business and Professions Code Section 12515(b).

The notification shall include the following minimum identifying information;

- (i) Name and address of service agency.
- (ii) Location of device(s). Name and address, including if available the unique identifier used by the business (e.g., pump or checkstand number).
- (iii) Name of service agent.
- (iv) Date of adjustment, repair, placing, or replacing into service.
- (v) Name of device manufacturer(s).
- (vi) Model designation(s) and serial number(s) of the device(s).

- (vii) On new installations, the National Institute of Standards and Technology or National Conference on Weights and Measures Certificate of Conformance number(s) for each separately approved component or device, if marked on the component or device.

- (3) **Security Seal.** - Service agents shall replace a security seal on any adjustment mechanism where the seal was required to be removed for service, repair, or installation. Before placing a device into service, service agents shall install a security seal on any adjustment mechanism designed to be sealed.
- (4) **Identification of Service Agency Work.** - Service agents shall identify their work on each device by applying an adhesive tag or label in a conspicuous location on the device. The adhesive tag or label shall show the name, registration number and business telephone number of the service agency, the license number of the service agent performing the work, and the date. Any security seal required pursuant to Section 12107 of the California Business and Professions Code shall show the registration number of the service agency and the year the security seal was placed on the device.
- (5) **Certificate of Accuracy of Standards.** - A service agency shall, on request from a sealer, show a copy of the certification of accuracy for the standards used to place a device into service.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 12027 and 12107, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 12515(a), 12531, 12532(h) and 12533, Business and Professions Code.

**4086. Certification of Service Agency Standards.** Each service agency shall have its standards certified at the service agency’s expense. Standards shall be tested and certified by either the Department or other metrology laboratories traceable to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). These laboratories include those in county weights and measures programs, industry, and other states that have been approved, certified, or accredited by NIST, or the Department in accordance with criteria established by NIST, or by other appropriate national or international accrediting organizations. The standards shall be certified as often as the Department deems necessary, based upon a review of supporting statistical data resulting from previous certifications, but in no event shall the period of time between certifications exceed 10 years. In the absence of supporting statistical data, standards shall be certified at least every two years.